Intentional Fellowship

Part 1

Intro – SPEAR

* On our journey to becoming an intentional church, we have talked about being intentional in evangelism, discipleship, ministry, and worship. The next two weeks we are focusing on intentional fellowship. We are going to look at how we fellowship as a church compared to how the Bible says we are to fellowship.
* In our Christian circles, the word fellowship has come to mean little more than Christian social activity. It may mean the exchange of pleasantries over coffee and cookies at church, or the social functions of our high school or campus ministry groups. This is not the meaning of fellowship in the New Testament.
* Biblical fellowship, however, is something different.

READ **ACTS 2:42, 44, 46**

* The Greek word for fellowship is “koinonia”. Two aspects.
  1. Fellowship (noun) = relationship, community.
     + First with God, then others. Our fellowship must be defined and fueled by our relationship with God. Not by accident. Intentional.
     + Cannot be reversed to be Biblical. If our fellowship with God is all about us, then our fellowship with others will be the same.
  2. Fellowship (verb) = partnering.
     + Community in action with the single-minded purpose of glorifying God by sharing the Gospel.
     + Again, if our purpose for action is selfishly motivated, then the results of our community in action will glorify ourselves.

Today, let’s talk about what fellowship looks like when we make it about us.

**Thought #1 – We get Biblical fellowship wrong when we view it as an event and not a lifestyle. I John 1:3-4**

**Thought #2 – We get Biblical fellowship wrong when we view at as optional instead of essential. I John 1:6-7, John 13:34-35**

**Thought #3 – We get Biblical fellowship wrong when we limit it to being nice instead of being accountable. Philippians 2:1-5**