

Two Sides to Fellowship



Fellowship

- Fellowship is the relationship shared between two people who plan to continue that relationship for eternity
- It is necessary to help us survive this difficult world
- It is designed to be shared between God and His people.

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Withdrawing/Withholding Fellowship

- One can withdraw from fellowship
- A church can withhold fellowship

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The Importance of Disfellowship

- It is designed to restore a soul to God
- It hopes to shame the person into repentance
- It will purge the evil from the midst

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Fellowship Precedes Disfellowship

- In order for withholding fellowship to work, there must be a fellowship that is first enjoyed
- We cannot expect disfellowshipping to work if we:
- The only reason to “disfellowship” where there is no current fellowship is to enact a formality or to “clear the books”

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An Eternal Picture

- An eternal experience in a temporary world
- Not having these relationships now should temporarily hurt so we don't have to be hurt eternally

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Acting Out Fellowship and Disfellowship

- Fellowship involves time, intention, and a changing of relationship
- Disfellowship involves time, intention, and a changing of relationship
- In both fellowship and disfellowship, the goal is the same

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