WEEK 6 BEING CONFORMED TO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST: THE HABIT OF FELLOWSHIP

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- ² the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have **fellowship** with us; and truly our **fellowship** is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. ⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have **fellowship** with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. ¹ My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

FELLOWSHIP—"TO HAVE IN COMMON"

TWO PARTS TO THE HABIT OF FELLOWSHIP

FLLOWSHIP WITH GOD

FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

FELLOWSHIP IS NOT THE GOAL

BIBLE STUDY/READING/MEMORIZATION IS NOT THE GOAL

PRAYER IS NOT THE GOAL

WORSHIP IS NOT THE GOAL

THE GOAL IS TO BE CONFORMED TO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST SO THAT THE WITNESS OF JESUS WILL BE IN THE WORLD

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Romans 8:29 (NKJV)

FELLOWSHIP—TO HAVE IN COMMON REQUIRES TO COME TO A POINT OF AGREEMENT

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

Amos 3:3 (NKJV)

TO BE IN FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD WE NEED TO COME INTO GREATER AGREEMENT WITH HIM

BELIEVERS COME TO AGREEMENT ABOUT THE LORD AND THEN COME TOGETHER IN AGREEMENT ABOUT BEING ON MISSION

WHAT WE ARE ABOUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE IS TOO IMPORTANT

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO FALL, FAIL, FORFEIT, QUIT, RUN OR BAIL. THERE IS TOO MUCH AT STAKE.

TWO BIBLICAL ILLUTRATIONS—NEHEMIAH REBUILDING THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM

THE CHURCH IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV)