

12 Practices of



Week 2: Fellowship in the New Testament

Jesus lived life by the new rules of the Kingdom of God. This included a radical welcome of and engagement with those whom we might be tempted to ignore or dismiss – foreigners, children and outcasts. He showed that everyone is precious in God's eyes.

Jesus told His disciples to love one another as He had loved them, and that He had loved them as the Father had loved Him. We are to love with the same pure love as within the Godhead! And if we do, then we will be sharing Koinonia Fellowship with one another, sharing in the life of Christ, sharing life together for the common good.

The early church sought to live out this kind of love – treating everyone as equally valued members of God's family, using their resources for the common good rather than just for themselves – but it didn't always come easily. That is why the authors of the New Testament letters spent so much papyrus and ink in spelling out in practical terms what loving one another meant in daily living.

If we love one another with this sort of love, then others will know that we are God's people. Standing out as different from others might be un-British, but we need to get used to the idea because we *are* different! God wants us to be noticed. Our mission is to show His love by living in Koinonia Fellowship with one another.