



# Fellowship in Caring for the Disabled



Explore how true fellowship embraces inclusion, reflecting Christ's love in caring for those with disabilities.

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## Introduction

Welcome to this **5-day Bible study on fellowship and inclusion**. As followers of Christ, we are called to embody His love and acceptance by embracing all members of His body, including those with disabilities. *Fellowship* is more than just gathering; it's about deep connection, mutual care, and honoring each person as made in God's image. In this study, we will explore biblical principles that encourage us to celebrate diversity, nurture compassion, and build a community where everyone is welcomed and valued.

Disabilities can sometimes marginalize individuals in society, but through Christ, we are urged to tear down walls of exclusion and build bridges of understanding. Scripture reveals God's heart toward the vulnerable and teaches us to imitate that love in practical ways. True fellowship means recognizing the unique gifts and needs of every member and supporting one another fully.

Throughout these five days, you will be challenged and encouraged to reflect deeply on how God's word calls us into active care and inclusion. We will look at examples of Jesus' ministry and the early church's example in Acts, learn about unity reflecting God's design, and consider our role in extending grace and practical help.

May this journey empower you to foster a church family that reflects the beautiful diversity and loving acceptance found in Christ. Together, let us



embrace fellowship that professes not only unity in faith but visible inclusion of all God's children.





## Day 1: 🤝 Embracing Every Member



Day 1: 🧡 Embracing Every Member

## Your Verse

*1 Corinthians 12:14-27 NIV - "Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Romans 12:5 - "so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."*
- *Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*



Day 1: 🧡 Embracing Every Member

## Devotional: God Values Every Member Equally

**In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul teaches us that the church is like a body with many parts.** Each part has a unique role, and all are essential. This passage reminds us that no one is insignificant, including those with disabilities. Sometimes society undervalues people with different abilities, but God sees everyone as vital to His body.

*True fellowship means embracing every member, acknowledging their gifts, and caring for their needs.* When one part suffers or is honored, the whole body responds. Inclusion is not optional—it is a biblical mandate reflecting God’s heart for unity and love. By welcoming people with disabilities fully, we glorify God and strengthen the church.

As you reflect today, consider how you view others in your fellowship community. Are there barriers to inclusion? How can you help create a space where everyone feels valued and empowered to contribute?



Day 1: 🧡 Embracing Every Member

## Reflect and Apply

1. How do I recognize and affirm the gifts of those with disabilities in my church or community?

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2. What barriers—physical, attitudinal, or spiritual—might prevent full inclusion?

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3. In what practical ways can I encourage greater fellowship that honors diversity?

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Day 1: 🧡 Embracing Every Member

## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time you witnessed or experienced true inclusion in fellowship.

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2. List gifts and strengths you see in members with disabilities around you.

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3. Reflect on attitudes or assumptions you may need to change regarding disability.

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Day 1: 🧡 Embracing Every Member

## Prayer for Today

**Dear Lord**, thank You for creating every person in Your image and for knitting us together as one body. Help us to embrace all members with love and respect, especially those with disabilities. Teach us to see their gifts and to support one another in unity. Remove any barriers of fear or prejudice in our hearts. May our fellowship reflect Your inclusive and compassionate spirit each day. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏 🧡 ❤️





## Day 2: 💡 Jesus' Compassionate Inclusion



## Your Verse

*Mark 2:3-12 NIV - "Jesus saw their faith and said to the paralyzed man, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'"*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 15:30 - "Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled...and he healed them."*
- *Luke 14:13-15 - "But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled...for you will be blessed."*



## Devotional: Following Jesus' Example of Compassionate Inclusion

**Jesus' ministry was marked by radical inclusion and compassion toward the disabled and marginalized.** In Mark 2, friends brought a paralyzed man to Jesus, demonstrating faith and determination in care. Jesus did more than heal physically—He restored dignity and fellowship. His heart was for wholeness and belonging.

*Jesus often challenged social norms by welcoming those excluded due to disability or illness.* This example shows us that real fellowship requires intentional action. It means opening our hearts and communities to those whom society might overlook. Jesus calls us to be His hands and feet, offering love, healing, and acceptance.

Reflect on how Jesus interacted with people on the margins. What does His example teach you about the posture of your heart toward those with disabilities? Are you willing to go the extra mile to bring others into true fellowship?



## Day 2: 💡 Jesus' Compassionate Inclusion

# Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' example challenge my approach to people with disabilities?

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2. In what ways can I act like the friends who brought the paralyzed man to Jesus?

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3. What attitudes or actions could better reflect Jesus' compassion in my community?

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## Day 2: 💡 Jesus' Compassionate Inclusion

# Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a moment when you experienced Jesus' compassion in your own life.

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2. Write about how you can embody Jesus' welcoming spirit in your fellowship group.

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3. Consider ways to advocate for people with disabilities based on Jesus' example.

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Day 2: 💡 Jesus' Compassionate Inclusion

## Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus**, thank You for Your loving example of reaching out to those who are often ignored or excluded. Help me to see others through Your eyes, with compassion and grace. Give me courage to invite and include those with disabilities in genuine fellowship. May my heart reflect Yours, full of acceptance and healing. Teach me to be a faithful friend and advocate. *In Your name, Amen.* 🙏❤️😊







## Day 3: Unity in Diversity



## Your Verse

*Ephesians 4:1-6 NIV - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 3:14 - "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."*
- *John 17:21 - "That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you."*



## Devotional: Promoting Unity Amid Diversity in Fellowship

**Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us that unity in the body of Christ is a precious gift we must nurture.** Fellowship thrives when believers commit to humility, gentleness, patience, and above all, love. This unity is not uniformity; rather, it embraces diverse gifts and backgrounds as a harmonious whole.

*When caring for those with disabilities, unity in diversity becomes especially important.* Differences should not divide but enrich our fellowship. By valuing each person and their unique contributions, we reflect God's multifaceted wisdom and beauty. Our unity is the visible expression of Christ dwelling within us.

Today, consider how you can promote peace and understanding across differences. What steps can you take to ensure that inclusion strengthens your fellowship rather than challenges it?



## Reflect and Apply

1. How do I balance honoring individual differences while promoting unity?

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2. What practical actions foster peace and inclusion in my fellowship group?

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3. How does love serve as the foundation for unity with people who are different?

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# Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on a time when unity was challenged in your community and how love restored it.

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2. List ways your fellowship benefits from the diversity of members, including those with disabilities.

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3. Write a prayer asking God to help you be an agent of unity and peace.

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Day 3: 🌿 Unity in Diversity

## Prayer for Today

**Father God**, thank You for knitting us into one body despite our differences. Help us to cherish each other's uniqueness and to work diligently for peace in our fellowship. May love be the bond that unites us and breaks down barriers of division. Guide us to embrace all members fully—especially those with disabilities—so that together we reflect the unity You desire. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* ❤️ 🙌 🙏





## Day 4: 🤝 Serving With Compassion



## Your Verse

*Philippians 2:3-4 NIV - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 25:40 - "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*
- *James 2:15-17 - "If a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food, and one of you says... 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving... what good is it?"*





## Devotional: Humble Service Builds Inclusive Fellowship

**Serving others is a tangible expression of fellowship and love.** Philippians exhorts us to put others' needs before our own with humility and genuine care. When we serve those with disabilities, we mirror Christ's servant heart and honor their dignity.

*True care goes beyond pity or obligation—it is active, respectful, and empowering.* Serving is an opportunity to build meaningful relationships and to recognize the intrinsic worth of every individual. Our acts of service connect us to Christ and to one another, binding us in fellowship.

Reflect on how you serve within your community. Do you notice opportunities to serve people with disabilities with sensitivity and respect? Consider how your actions can build up the body of Christ through compassionate service.



Day 4: 🧡 Serving With Compassion

## Reflect and Apply

1. How do I balance humility with action in serving others?

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2. What barriers might prevent effective service to people with disabilities?

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3. In what ways can serving deepen relational fellowship rather than create dependence?

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Day 4: 🤝 Serving With Compassion

## Journaling Prompts

1. Recall a service opportunity where you felt God's presence deeply.

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2. Identify practical ways you can serve disabled members in your community.

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3. Write about attitudes that might improve your willingness to serve humbly.

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Day 4: 🤝 Serving With Compassion

## Prayer for Today

**Gracious God**, thank You for the example of Jesus who came to serve, not be served. Teach me to serve with humility and love, valuing others above myself. Open my eyes to the needs of those with disabilities around me and give me a compassionate heart to act. Use my hands and feet to bring healing and inclusion in our fellowship. May my service bring glory to You and unity to Your body. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙏❤️🙏





## Day 5: ✨ Celebrating God's Work in All



## Your Verse

*Psalm 139:13-14 NIV – "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Exodus 4:11 – "The Lord said to him, 'Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind?'"*
- *Isaiah 43:1 – "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."*



Day 5: ✨ Celebrating God's Work in All

## Devotional: Honoring God's Handiwork in Everyone

**Our God is the Creator of all life, intricately forming each person with purpose and love.** Psalm 139 beautifully declares God's intimate involvement in our creation, reminding us that every individual matters deeply to Him—regardless of ability or appearance.

*Disabilities do not diminish God's handiwork or His plans for someone's life.* Rather, they reveal the depth of His creativity and sovereignty. Celebrating this truth helps us embrace one another with joy and admiration for the diversity within God's family.

Today, reflect on how God has made you and those around you. How can celebrating God's craftsmanship inspire greater inclusion and appreciation in your fellowship? Let us honor God by valuing every member as His unique masterpiece.



## Reflect and Apply

1. How does knowing God created every person uniquely affect my view of disability?

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2. In what ways can I celebrate diversity as part of God's design in fellowship?

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3. How can I encourage others to appreciate all members as God's handiwork?

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Day 5: ✨ Celebrating God's Work in All

## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about the wonder of God's creation in your own life.

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2. List ways your fellowship could better celebrate diversity and inclusion.

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3. Reflect on how you can mentor or support someone with a disability in your church.

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Day 5: ✨ Celebrating God's Work in All

## Prayer for Today

**Heavenly Father,** You have wonderfully made each of us, knitting us together with care and intention. Help me to see others as Your masterpieces, loved and valued perfectly. Remove any prejudices or fears I hold and fill me with joy in the beautiful diversity of Your family. May I celebrate and uphold all members in love, reflecting Your glory. *In Jesus' precious name, Amen.* 🎨 🙏





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