Fellowship with the Poor: Sharing Life in Christ



Explore the joy and challenge of genuine fellowship with those in need, reflecting Christ's love through sharing life and resources.





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Introduction

Fellowship is a fundamental aspect of the Christian life, but it takes on a special meaning when it's about *sharing life with the poor*. The Bible invites us not only to care for the needy but to **enter into deep, transformative relationships** with them. This kind of fellowship goes beyond giving—it's about communion, presence, and mutual upliftment.

When we open our hearts and lives to those in need, we reflect the heart of Christ, who came to serve and identify with the marginalized. Through Scripture, we see believers loving and supporting each other in tangible ways, forming a community where no one is overlooked or forgotten. This five-day study will guide you through God's call to embrace and share life with the poor, cultivating a fellowship that blesses both giver and receiver.

As you journey through these days, consider how your faith translates into action, how your presence can be a source of hope, and how **living in genuine relationship** with those in need shapes your walk with Jesus. Let's explore together the beauty and power of *true fellowship* as a shared life in Christ.









Day 1: The Heart of Fellowship









Day 1: 🍑 The Heart of Fellowship

Your Verse

Acts 2:44-45 - "All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need."

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 12:13 "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."
- Hebrews 13:16 "Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."







Day 1: 🍑 The Heart of Fellowship

Devotional: Embracing a Shared Life in Need

The early church sets a powerful example of fellowship by sharing not just resources but their lives. Acts 2:44–45 describes believers holding all things in common, selling possessions to meet the practical needs around them. This radical generosity was motivated by love and a desire for authentic community.

True fellowship involves more than occasional acts of charity. It's a lifestyle that welcomes needs and vulnerabilities into living rooms, conversations, and daily routines. Romans 12:13 encourages us to actively seek opportunities to share and practice hospitality, breaking down barriers between 'us' and 'them.'

When we cultivate this kind of fellowship, we reflect God's heart for unity and compassion. It challenges us to see those in need not as distant recipients but as brothers and sisters with whom life is shared. **Are you ready to open your life to this kind of generous connection?**







Day 1: Ծ The Heart of Fellowship

Reflect and Apply

1	How does the early church's example of sharing challenge my current attitudes toward the poor?
	What barriers might I need to overcome to truly enter into fellowship with those in need?
	In what ways can my daily life reflect a shared life with others rather than isolation or selective generosity?







Day 1: Ծ The Heart of Fellowship

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when sharing life with someone in need impacted you deeply.
	List practical ways you can open your home or schedule to welcome those in need.
	Reflect on your feelings when you think about offering hospitality to the poor.







Day 1: 🍑 The Heart of Fellowship

Prayer for Today

Lord, open my eyes and heart to the beauty of true fellowship. Help me to see those in need as family and to share my life with open hands and an open heart. Teach me to be generous not only with resources but with my time, presence, and love. May my life reflect your compassion and unity. *Guide me into deeper relationships that reflect your kingdom.* Amen. \bigwedge







Day 2: Day 2: Loving with Action and Truth









Day 2: Day 2: Loving with Action and Truth

Your Verse

1 John 3:17 – "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"

Supporting Scriptures

- James 2:15-16 "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed... and you do not meet their physical needs, what good is it?"
- Proverbs 19:17 "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord..."







Devotional: Love That Moves Beyond Words

Love expressed without action is incomplete. 1 John 3:17 confronts believers with a tough question—can we truly claim God's love if we ignore a hurting brother or sister? Genuine fellowship demands that our love extends beyond feelings or words to tangible acts of compassion.

James 2:15–16 reminds us that neglecting the physical needs of others undermines the faith we profess. Fellowship with the poor means stepping into their reality, responding to real needs, and demonstrating the love of Christ through practical support. Proverbs 19:17 encourages the mindset that kindness to the poor is ultimately kindness to God Himself, reinforcing the spiritual significance of our actions.

True fellowship is love enacted. It's not always comfortable, but it is always transformative—for the giver and the receiver. How might your actions reflect the love of God today?







Reflect and Apply

	What does it mean for me to show love through action rather than just words?
	In what ways have I witnessed love that did not meet practical need? How did it affect those involved?
	How do these verses challenge my personal response to poverty and
	need?







Journaling Prompts

Describe a situation where you acted out of love to meet someone's practical need.
Consider obstacles that keep you from loving others through practical help.
Write a prayer asking God to soften your heart and prompt you to act with love.







Prayer for Today

Father God, help me to love as You love—through action and truth. Show me the needs around me and give me courage to respond generously and faithfully. Let my love be visible in deeds, reflecting Your heart to those I encounter. Teach me to see every act of kindness as serving You directly. *Transform my heart so that I may live out genuine fellowship.* In Jesus' name, Amen.















Your Verse

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."

Supporting Scriptures

- Luke 14:12–14 "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends... but invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind."
- Acts 4:32 "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own..."







Devotional: Breaking Walls to Build Unity

Fellowship with the poor calls us to dismantle social and cultural divides.

Galatians 3:28 proclaims the radical unity believers share in Christ, erasing distinctions that often separate communities. True fellowship transcends ethnicity, status, and gender to create a family bound by love and mutual regard.

Jesus' teaching in Luke 14 challenges social norms by urging us to include the marginalized rather than the powerful or popular. Such invitations foster a new kind of community where all experience belonging and dignity.

Acts 4:32 reminds us that this unity is expressed through shared possessions and hearts aligned in God's purpose. By opening ourselves to fellowship with the poor, we participate in God's kingdom breaking into the world, healing divisions and inspiring hope. *How might you break down walls to create a welcoming fellowship today?*







Reflect and Apply

	What social or cultural barriers exist in my community that hinder fellowship with those in need?
2.	How can I actively promote unity and inclusivity in my relationships and
	gatherings?
	In what ways does embracing those different from me enrich my faith and fellowship?







Journaling Prompts

Write about any prejudices or barriers you have noticed in yourself or your community.
Reflect on moments when you experienced fellowship despite differences.
List steps you can take to invite marginalized people into meaningful fellowship.







Prayer for Today

Jesus, break down the walls in my heart and community. Teach me to love without boundaries and to welcome those often overlooked. Help me build unity through shared life and resources, reflecting Your kingdom's inclusive love. Empower me to invite and embrace the poor and marginalized with open arms. *May Your Spirit lead us to true fellowship.* Amen. • • •

















Your Verse

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."

Supporting Scriptures

- Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves..."
- Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."







Devotional: Joyful Service as Worship

Serving those in need is more than duty—it's worship. Jesus' words in Matthew 25 reveal a profound truth: when we serve the least, we serve Him directly. This connection between service and worship invites us to approach fellowship with humble joy.

Philippians 2:3-4 challenges us to consider others above ourselves, adopting a posture of humility essential for authentic fellowship. Such selflessness embodies Christ's example and opens the door to genuine connection.

Colossians 3:23 urges us to pursue service with wholehearted effort, as an offering to God. When we serve joyfully and sincerely, we participate in God's redemptive work, blessing others while growing spiritually. *How can serving those in need deepen your faith and joy today?*







Reflect and Apply

1.	How do I view service to the poor: obligation, opportunity, or worship?
2.	What attitudes do I need to change to serve with humility and joy?
3.	In what ways does serving others deepen my relationship with Jesus?







Journaling Prompts

1 .]	Describe a time when serving others brought you unexpected joy.
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	Identify areas where you can serve more wholeheartedly in your community.
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	Write a prayer asking God to purify your motives and fill you with joy in service.
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Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, teach me to serve with joy and humility. Help me to see every act of kindness as worship to You. May my heart be aligned with Your love as I reach out to those in need. Strengthen me to serve selflessly and with gladness, reflecting Your grace to all I meet. *Use me, Lord, as an instrument of Your peace and love.* Amen.







Day 5: 🗱 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion









Day 5: 🗱 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion

Your Verse

1 Peter 4:9-10 - "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Luke 3:11 "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none..."
- Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before others..."







Day 5: 🗱 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion

Devotional: Compassion as Daily Living

Compassion is more than a feeling—it's a daily commitment. 1 Peter 4:9-10 encourages believers to practice hospitality and serve continually, using God's gifts generously. Fellowship with the poor flourishes as a lifestyle marked by open hearts and hands.

Luke 3:11 calls believers to practical generosity: sharing resources freely without hesitation. Such actions illuminate the love of Christ, setting us apart as lights in a world often shadowed by selfishness.

Matthew 5:16 reminds us that our compassionate living is a beacon drawing others to God's glory. Cultivating a lasting lifestyle of fellowship with the poor means reflecting God's love in all we do. *How can you make compassion the rhythm of your life going forward?*







Day 5: 🎇 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion

Reflect and Apply

What changes can I make to live more compassionately each day?
How am I stewarding my gifts to serve others consistently?
In what ways does my life reflect God's light through compassion?







Day 5: 🎇 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion

Journaling Prompts

1.	Plan concrete actions or habits that will increase your compassionate living.
2.	Reflect on how hospitality has shaped your spiritual journey.
3.	Write about the impact you hope your lifestyle of compassion will have on others.







Day 5: 🎇 Living a Lifestyle of Compassion

Prayer for Today

God of compassion, help me to live generously each day. Teach me to serve with joy and hospitality, sharing what I have without complaint. Let my life be a light shining in the darkness, drawing others to Your love. Fill me with grace to make compassion my constant companion and every act a reflection of Your heart. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* *







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