

# Sermon Notes

## Belonging to God and One Another

Bible reading: 1 John 1:1-7

Text : 1 John 1:3

Message: We fellowship with God's people as an integral part of our new life in Jesus Christ.

### I. Introduction

### II. We should fellowship with God's people because it is the gift of gospel proclamation.

1. In v 3, John is inviting his hearers ie the church in Asia Minor to have fellowship with him and the apostles. But what really is the fellowship John is talking about ? What is the basis? How can that come about in the first place?

#### A. What is fellowship

#### B. How does this fellowship come about

#### C. What is the basis of this fellowship

#### D. What does that imply

### III. We should fellowship with God's people because it is an integral part of fellowship with God.

1. Their acceptance of the gospel joined together those who have a common faith in Jesus Christ, but John says *indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.* ie that fellowship includes the Father and the Son.

#### A. Union with Christ

#### B. Horizontal and vertical aspects of fellowship

## **C. Significance of fellowship**

### **IV. We should fellowship with God's people because it is walking in accordance to God's word.**

1. We find the relation between divine and human nature of Christian fellowship elaborated in v 7 in an oblique way.

#### **A. Walking in sin in relation to fellowship**

#### **B. Obedience to God's word and fellowship**

#### **C. The challenge**

### **V. Conclusion**

1. Christian fellowship is not devoting ourselves to social activities but a relationship.
2. True fellowship embraces both the objective and the experiential aspects of our relationship with God and with man. The objective aspect is referred to as union and the experiential as communion.
3. Fellowship with God's people is an integral part of fellowship with God. Nonetheless there can be no fellowship with God's people without first fellowship with God.
4. Hence with a close eye on the objective nature of our fellowship with God and fellow brethren, we make time to love one another, share resources to care for one another and to partner one another for the cause and glory of the kingdom of God, both in times of adversity and in prosperity.