



Everything in Common

Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35

January 12, 2020

The Church's mission in terms of relationships of Up, In, and Out

Koinonia (shared, intimate, interwoven life) as the **quality** of these relationships

In imitation of the relationship between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Prioritized by Jesus' new commandment to love one another: John 13:34,35

Observing ways the early church practiced love for one another (**koinonia**): Acts 2:42

The phenomenon of generous sharing and "holding things in common:" Acts 2:44, 4:32

Distinguished from modern philosophical communism

What mindset might have fueled this radical practice of generous sharing?

The Bible's remarkably accurate psychological portrayal of the human being

Love your neighbor **as yourself**: Leviticus 19:18

Do unto others as you would have them do **unto you**: Matthew 7:12

No one ever hates **his/her own flesh** but nourishes it and cherishes it: Ephesians 5:29

Key Principle: when we see each other as an extension of ourselves we are likely to share

The overwhelming weight of what we have "in common" with each other

Image, brokenness, salvation, status, commission, indwelling Holy Spirit, inheritance

In distinction: personalities, experiences, specializations and weaknesses, assets

What we have in common far outweighs what we have in distinction

Even in spite of our differences, our own hearts are road maps to others

This weight differential can shift our held distinctions toward serving our shared life

The church as Christ's body: 1 Corinthians 12:26,27

How Christ feels about His body guides how we are to see each other: Eph 5:29

Giving to our common (formal) Highland life

Giving to our common (informal) Highland life

Sharing and knowing each other's needs

If We're Honest (Battistelli) kick starts the cycle
