

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

29 A

# THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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MY NAME

DATE

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## WITHDRAWING FELLOWSHIP

- 1. A Definition** Fellowship is from the GK *koinonia* meaning *partnership, participation, social intercourse, communicate, communion, or distribution (ie: sharing)*. (1 Jn 1:7) “But if we \_\_\_\_\_ in the light, as he is in the \_\_\_\_\_, we have \_\_\_\_\_ one with another, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ his Son \_\_\_\_\_ us from \_\_\_\_\_ sin.” This is a wonderful thing especially because it includes (1 Cor 1:9) “the fellowship of his \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ our Lord.”
- 2. Christians Value It** Paul said (Phil 2:1-2) that if there be “any fellowship of the \_\_\_\_\_, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my \_\_\_\_\_, that ye be \_\_\_\_\_, having the same \_\_\_\_\_, being of \_\_\_\_\_ accord, of \_\_\_\_\_ mind..” Every Christian treasures (Eph 4:3) “the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.” It is something a child of God would hate to lose.
- 3. Genuine Fellowship Must Exist Before It Will Be Missed** If our fellowship with Christ and our local brethren isn’t important to us we will not mind it being lost. (a) When the weak and unfaithful “drift away” it is because of weak fellowship. (b) If a local church is weak the fellowship they extend to each other will be weak to non-existent. (c) It depends on how much secularism exists versus the degree of spirituality. God asked: (Jer 2:32) “Can a maid forget her \_\_\_\_\_, or a bride her \_\_\_\_\_? yet my people have \_\_\_\_\_ days without number.” The church at Smyrna (Rev 2:9) was told: “but thou art \_\_\_\_\_.” It’s that simple! Churches with poor fellowship lose members; those with good fellowship lose very few.
- 4. The Command** (2 Thess 3:6) “Now we \_\_\_\_\_ you, brethren, in the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves from every \_\_\_\_\_ that walketh \_\_\_\_\_, and not after the tradition which he received of us.” Clearly, this is church action and regards spiritual fellowship in Christ. If a church never “withdraws” from the disorderly it is because (a) they have no “disorderly” members, or (b) they sin by ignoring God’s command.
- 5. Maintain Holiness** (Gal 5:9) “A little \_\_\_\_\_ leaveneth the \_\_\_\_\_ lump.” Anything is adulterated when a foreign substance is added to the pure mixture. (1 Cor 10:21) “Ye cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord’s table, and of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.” Disfellowship of an out-of-step with God member is necessary to (1 Cor 5:7) “purge out --- the \_\_\_\_\_ leaven, that ye may be a \_\_\_\_\_ lump.” It is done to remove a persistently unrepentant sinner and maintain God’s principle: (1 Pet 1:16) “Be ye \_\_\_\_\_; for I am holy.”
- 6. To Certify Soundness** Paul wrote Roman saints to (16:17) “mark them which cause \_\_\_\_\_ and offences \_\_\_\_\_ to the doctrine which ye have learned; and \_\_\_\_\_ them.” You can’t assemble and commune with such ones in worship and practice what is taught here. Paul once even (Gal 2:11) withstood Peter “to the \_\_\_\_\_, because he was \_\_\_\_\_.”