Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Fellowship that Touches God's Heart"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

Acts 2:42-47 records 1:8; Philippians 1:5) the powerful work of the thus setting the heartbeat of the church in this dispensation, "They devoted themselves to... fellowship..."

An un-Biblical expectation in fellowship is one of the key reasons many find themselves roaming from church to church and changing their partnerships in ministry. Nowhere in the New Testament does any Greek words translated "fellowship" imply fun

Studying Acts 2:42-47, "The Fellowship of the Believers" reveals to us that true "fellowship" was experienced because the Body of Christ were "devoted" to the "apostles teachings" to "prayer" and joining together to remember what Christ did for them on the Cross of Calvary. (Acts 2:24; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:17-34) "Fellowship" (koingnial) means to share something which involves participation. The practical application is sharing material goods, (Acts 2:45) ministering together to meet the needs of the Body of Christ, (2 Corinthians 8:4) and participating as the Lord makes the way in fulfilling "The Great Commission." (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts

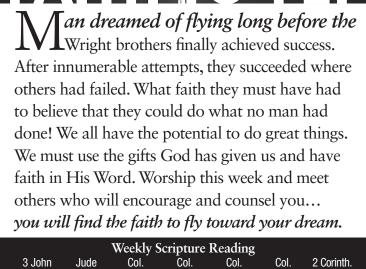
HAVING THE

The NFL knows a fellow- of time studying play books, check phrase, "Thousands Holy Spirit working in and ship of its own. This well watching film and practicing through the Body of Christ, known organization spends together. Players often play be empty as the faithful a huge amount of money re- while hurting and fans are cruiting, building facilities loyal. This is why the stadi- Dome." Some football for both training athletes and ums are filled and the Super franchises have boasted of spectators. Coaches, orga- Bowl game is one of the most nizations and players sacri- spectacular events of the year. Sunday nights. fice a great deal of time and As a matter of fact the Green

ball. Teams spend a great deal that has this tongue-inof places of worship will go to worship at the Super shutting churches down on

When the church has strength for the sport of foot- Bay Packers have a video Biblical fellowship involving prayerful studying God's Word before doing, joining together in prayer on a Biblical truth, working together to meet needs, sacrificing time, strength, finances, with everyone involved exercising their spiritual gifts for the good of Jesus Christ, thousands will be added to the church. Acts 2:41 says, "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand was added to their number that day." Luke in writing about the "Fellowship for the Believers" wrote, "... praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those being saved." (Acts 2:47)

> Could it be, is it possible, when the Body of Christ has Biblical "fellowship," that touches the heart of God, Christians devoted to the Lord may enjoy shutting down sports Sunday nights?



1.1-23 1.24-2.19 2.20-3.17

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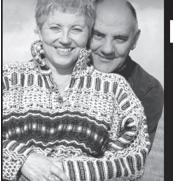
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