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 Holy Spirit working in and through the Body of Christ, 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 do any Greek words translated "fellowship" imply fun times.

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

The NFL knows a fellow- great deal of time studying check phrase, "Thousands ship of its own. This well play books, watching film and known organization spends practicing together. Players a huge amount of money often play while hurting and recruiting, building facili- fans are loyal. This is why ties for both training athletes the stadiums are filled and the franchises have boasted of and spectators. Coaches, Super Bowl game is one of organizations and players the most spectacular events sacrifice a great deal time of the year. As a matter of fact and strength for the sport the Green Bay Packers have a Biblical fellowship in-

of football. Teams spend a video that this tongue-inof places of worship will be empty as the faithful go to worship at the Super Dome." Some football shutting churches down on Sunday nights.

> volving 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, Sunday nights?

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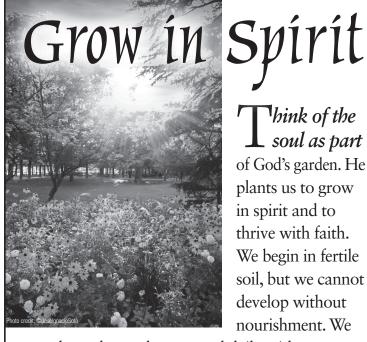
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plants us to grow in spirit and to thrive with faith. We begin in fertile soil, but we cannot develop without

nourishment. We

hink of the

L soul as part

of God's garden. He

must keep the garden watered daily with prayer and fed weekly with worship, and remove the weeds of doubt and fear so that the soul can flourish. Worship this week and every week... root your life in God.

Weekly Scripture Reading Ezekiel Revelation Revelation 1 Corinth. 22.1-21 12.1-11

Romans Romans

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when the Body of Christ has Biblical "fellowship," that touches the heart of God, Christians devoted to the Lord may enjoy shutting down sports events on

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