



SPECTATOR TO PARTICIPATOR

SERMON SERIES: Spectator to Participant

SERMON TITLE: An Invitation to Christian Fellowship

KEY TEXT (ESV): Romans 15:1-7

OTHER TEXT (NKJV, ESV NLT): Psalm 133, Ephesians 4:5–6, John 13:35, James 5:16

Big Idea: From the beginning, God created humanity in His image. He who exists in relationship within Himself (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) *designed us for connection*. In Christ, we are not just individuals on a personal journey of faith; we are part of something much bigger, a spiritual family, joined together and being built into a *dwelling place for God*. Spiritual growth does not happen in isolation. It happens through connection with people who encourage us, challenge us, carry our burdens, speak truth in love, and walk with us. These relationships are tools God uses to shape us, grow us, and reveal His love to the world. So when we choose to engage, reconnect, and build meaningful relationships, we are not just being friendly, we are participating in God's design and making space for His presence to dwell among us. We were never meant to do life alone.

Pastor Moffat preached a sermon titled ***An Invitation to Christian Fellowship*** as the third sermon in the ***Spectator to Participant*** series. In this message, he emphasised that Christian faith is not meant to be lived in isolation, but in deep, Spirit-led fellowship with others. True fellowship is a gift from God that strengthens our walk, reflects His love to the world, and calls us to move from passive attendance to active, life-giving connection within the body of Christ.

Romans 15: 1-7 ESV

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

God Bless You!

The Connection Groups Office



SPECTATOR TO PARTICIPATOR

Leader Heads-Up: Taking attendance and sending your report helps us follow up well and keeps everyone connected during the campaign. **Everyone matters!**

A. Start Talking

The CG campaign is dubbed **Each One Reach One**. This is not just a slogan, but a reminder that connection just doesn't happen, it is built when we take **initiative** to **invite** those seeking fellowship, **include** them in the family, and **invest** in their growth. How are you personally making this a reality for others?

B. Start Thinking

1. The church is not only for worship, for God to enjoy, but it is also for fellowship, for people to enjoy. What barriers keep you from fully opening up to others in deep Christian fellowship? (e.g. past hurts, fear of judgement, pride, different personalities). How will you overcome these barriers? Read **Romans 15:5-7** and **Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV**.
2. We often connect with people based on shared interests, but Christian fellowship runs deeper. It transcends age, background, or preference. What's one step you can take this week to experience deep fellowship with someone you wouldn't normally gravitate toward? Read **Ephesians 4:2-6 NKJV**
3. Christian fellowship can't be destroyed, but it can be spoiled by things like gossip, pride, unhealthy cliques, or being easily offended. What will you personally do to guard against these things that weaken the fellowship?
Read **1 Corinthians 13:4-8** and **Romans 14:19 ESV**

C. Start Praying

Pray that your group will experience genuine, deep fellowship in Christ, the kind that heals, builds up, and glorifies God.

D. Start Doing

Do **ONE** intentional act of fellowship this week:

1. **Send a voice note or message** to someone in your CG you haven't seen in a while.
2. **Invite someone for coffee, a snack, or a walk**, not to discuss ministry, just to connect.
3. **Offer to carpool** someone who struggles to get to CG meetings
4. **Reach out and offer a short prayer** to someone in your CG going through a rough patch in life.

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