**Fellowship CommUnity Group**

**Discussion Guide for Leaders**

*Worshipping, Growing and Serving*

*Sermon: Fellowship with Us*

*1-19-20*

***Group Leaders & Host Homes****: Welcome back to community groups! May God bless you as you continue to participate in this disciple making ministry.*

1. **Getting To Know Each Other** Opening Question: **Share something that you are looking forward to accomplish in 2020.**

* **Opening Prayer**. (Either leader, host home or someone who is willing to pray out loud)

*(Notes from message for reference only – use only as needed)*

**\*\***Use Sermon notes bulletin insert

**Four Questions**

**1) Who/what have they heard, seen, looked upon and touched?**

‘that which was from the beginning” - Jesus.

**2) Who/what have they seen, have they testified to and now proclaim?**

The life – Jesus

**3) Why do they proclaim this Jesus?**

So that others may have fellowship with us.

**4) Why would others want fellowship with us?**

Because our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

>>*True biblical fellowship requires that those in fellowship with each other (horizontal) are also in fellowship with the Father,(vertical) through the Son and indwelt by the Spirit.*

>>*Biblical community requires something to be common, and that commonality is Jesus, but not just any Jesus, the Jesus manifested from the Father, as he has been revealed, the one we have seen, the one we know, the one who knows us.*

**Our Mission**

*Our mission says that we exist to pervade the Back Mountain, the Wyoming Valley and the world with the gospel by making disciples who make disciples and who glorify the Lord Jesus Christ in every phase of our lives*.

> **So, what does this mean for us?**

It means that we must be the Jesus that is heard, seen, looked upon and touched by the Back Mountain, the Wyoming Valley and the world.  *Now, you are the body of Christ…* – 1 Corinthians 12.

**Into The Text** (Leaders: This time is not meant to be application yet, this is time in the Word, before we seek to apply truth, we need to understand the truth. The section after this one will focus on application.)

1. Ask someone to read 1 John 1:1-4. *Ask: Who is the writer of this letter? Who is he writing to? What issues or problems is he addressing through this letter? Define and discuss Gnosticism in the first century.*
2. *Ask: Why does John write ‘that which is from the beginning’? Why does John emphasize that he and others heard Jesus, saw him with their eyes and touched him with their own hands? What does it mean that ‘the life’ was made manifest? What is John telling us by writing ‘which was with the Father’?*
3. *Ask: In V3 John clarifies what he has proclaimed to the world, according to this verse, what Jesus did they proclaim? For what purpose did John proclaim this Jesus?(v3) Why did John want others to have fellowship with them?*
4. *Ask: What does it mean to have fellowship with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ? Is it possible to come to the Father without the Son?*

**Application**

1. Say: **Let’s move to application**. *Ask: Based on this text, how would you describe true Christian fellowship? In what ways do we sometimes misunderstand true Christian fellowship?*
2. *Ask: What Jesus are you personally conveying to the world? Is it the Jesus that has been manifested and made known to us through the Scriptures?*
3. Ask: *Why does the world come up with their own version of Jesus? Give some examples of how the world today is doing this. What do they find unappealing about the Jesus that has been revealed? Why do Christians also come up with their own version of Jesus?*
4. Ask: *What Jesus does our community and valley need to see from our church? Will the Jesus of the Scriptures be opposed in the world? How so?*

**Closing Prayer Time**: **(Leader Say:**) Let’s close with a time of prayer. Thank the Lord for revealing himself to you, for making himself known to you. Ask him to help you display the Jesus of the scriptures to the world around you. Pray for our church and ask the Lord to allow Fellowship Church to display the true Jesus of the scriptures to the Back Mountain, Wyoming Valley and the world. *(Ask someone to open, let people pray as they feel led, and then leader closes.)*