

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

05/30/16 - True Fellowship

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1 John 1:1?2:2

Charles Schulz, the creator of the *Peanuts*, comic strip did a series of cartoons for Christian teens called *Young Pillars*. One panel showed a young couple sitting on a couch. The young man asks, "Why do you insist on calling our dates 'fellowship'?"

Fellowship is a churchy word, right up there with "narthex," "vestibule," and "love offering." It is really a shame because the word John uses in First John chapter one four times, *koinonia* (koy-no-KNEE-ah), means so much more than our pressed and pale concept. "Fellowship" here means "participation in," "communion," even "partnership." It entails joined hearts, wills, and energies.

"The fellowship of kindred minds/Is like to that above."* The Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, model the type of fellowship God wants all believers to have with Him and one another. A fellowship characterized by spiritual intimacy, vitality, and purity. This fellowship throbs with life, shares both pain and praise, and never gives up.

* John Fawcett "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

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