Christian fellowship

1 John 4:11-18

¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to <u>love one another</u>. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. ¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so <u>we know</u> and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is <u>no fear in love</u>. But <u>perfect love drives out fear</u>, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

We need to love one another with His love, then we can live honestly and vulnerable before one another and truly have communion. We are created to live with our siblings in faith, and in that environment God can form us to be more like Him.

Heb 10:23-25

²³ Let us <u>hold unswervingly to the hope we profess</u>, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may <u>spur one another on toward love</u> and good deeds, ²⁵ <u>not giving up meeting</u> <u>together</u>, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

We need to meet to encourage one another, so we can stand firm in our faith and hold on to our hope.

Prov 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

When we get close to each other, we are sharpened and shaped.

Mark 10:42-45

⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

We are called to serve one another, as Jesus served and gave His life for us

Questions

- ✤ Why do we need each other, is it not enough with God?
- How do I/can I participate/contribute to the Christian community?
- ✤ What happens to us in fellowship?
- ✤ So let's practice:
 - Share encouragement to one another until everyone has a word.
 - Share needs, and pray for each other in small groups.

Go in peace and serve the Lord with joy!