

Church Rhythm 5
The rhythm of holy fellowship

[Phi 2:5 ESV] 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

I. Intro

- A. Strong, regular, repeated pattern: rhythm
- B. Last time I spoke about generous giving:
 - 1. Many responded to that teaching
 - 2. Let remind everyone, giving is a spiritual matter, and needs a spiritual response
 - 3. Give and trust God with the gift, obedience brings blessing
- C. Rhythms come together in sync in order to make a more powerful rhythm.
- D. Types of Rhythm:
 - 1. Non syncopated rhythm: straight forward beats
 - 2. Syncopated rhythm: emphasis placed on the weaker beats
- E. Example: 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and
 - 1. Different sections clap on different beats
 - 2. Coming together with one rhythm
- F. A more impulsive example is in a baseball stadium when they start the wave...
 - 1. You wait for your turn, do your thing, and then wait again.
 - 2. But it looks like a wave...rhythm...circling the stadium.

II. Text

- A. Have this mind
 - 1. Have this attitude, literal from the greek, but speaks to something deeper.
 - a) Attitude seems to be too light of a word, because of the way we use it in the modern English.
 - b) This is speaking to a deeper conviction.
 - 2. Attitude:
 - a) Oxford: a settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior.
 - b) Thoughts become behavior, behavior becomes rhythm.
 - 3. This should be your rhythm because it is the pattern of your actions, based upon conviction.
- B. Among yourselves
 - 1. Shared experience
 - 2. The collective group should have the mind individually, and bring them to the fellowship.
- C. Which is yours
 - 1. You have this, it is yours
 - 2. It is yours by gift
 - 3. It is yours to practice
 - 4. It is yours to share
- D. In Christ Jesus
 - 1. The source
 - 2. When we are IN CHRIST we have the collective experience of life empowered by Christ
 - 3. Not everyone is going to have the same experience, but will have different experiences to continue sharing with the fellowship...in rhythm.

III. Point

- A. Holy Fellowship:
 - 1. Fellowship that is held together by Christ himself.
 - 2. We are all blessed individually with the mind of Christ
 - 3. We are all compelled to come together in rhythm with the mind God gave us IN CHRIST.

4. Illustration:
 - a) Driving in the metroplex...
 - b) Every car, we hope, has a person with a functioning brain and cognitive ability.
 - c) Every car has a pilot with different intellect, and different training, and different experience.
 - d) Yet, they all come together and navigate the roads of the metroplex in a rhythm that mostly works.
 - e) When something breaks in the rhythm, things can take a minute to sort out.
 5. Stay in rhythm with Christ, bring that rhythm to the fellowship, watch God multiply the effectiveness.
 6. When a church comes together in rhythm, we see individuals joining with giftedness that:
 - a) Broadens the scope of ministry
 - b) Accomplishes more in ministry
 - c) Increases effectiveness in ministry
 - d) Fulfills the call of ministry
- B. Holy Responsibility
1. The Responsibility of the believer is to come together with others and bring the gifts and talents to the Lord in service through His body.
 2. We are responsible to serve, each one of us.
 3. [1Co 12:14-31 ESV] 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.
- C. Supernatural Results
1. How do we see supernatural results?
 - a) Connecting in Unity
 - b) Genuine care and concern
 - c) Know one another, and allow yourself to be known
 2. What are the results?
 - a) Accomplishing the mission Christ set before us.
 - b) Doing GREAT things!
 3. [Jhn 14:12 ESV] 12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

IV. Close

A. The Lord's supper

B. An illustration of Holy Fellowship:

1. With Christ in His death
2. Through the power and promise of the resurrection
3. Through the fulfilled empowerment from the Holy Spirit
4. And through the unity of the church