



One Step Further

**In The Ecclesia**

# NOT Sinful is NOT Good Enough



**CLEARLY  
SINFUL**

**NOT  
SINFUL**

***ONE STEP  
FURTHER***

- Life is not **BLACK** and **WHITE**
- Life's **QUESTIONS** never have only **TWO** Answers

# Organized Religion

## ■ Factors that push us away from the Ideal:

1. Traditions
2. Order & Organization
3. Laziness
4. Discomfort



# Memorial Service

**NOT  
MEETING  
TOGETHER**

**WEEKLY  
SERVICE**

**BREAKING  
BREAD  
DAILY**

- Our Fellowship will not be able to grow as strong as it could if we invested time each day in encouraging one another and developing personal relationships
- ***ONE STEP FURTHER*** is transforming your Memorial **SERVICE** to a Memorial **LIFE**



# Fellowship

**FELLOWSHIP  
EVERYONE**

**STATEMENT  
OF FAITH**

**KNOW  
EVERYONE  
PERSONALLY**

- Thousands of hours invested by hundreds of Brethren dealing with the complications caused by this decision...



# DIS-Fellowship



**IGNORE  
SIN**

**IGNORE  
SINNERS**

**WITHDRAW  
FROM SIN**

- The concept here is that the fellowship we have been enjoying with our Brother or Sister is **so precious and valuable**, that life without this fellowship should be almost **unbearable for the offender...**
- Instead, life with us is often unbearable



# When Fellowship Falls Apart



- Relationships are worth **RESTORING**
- Fellowship is ***COMING ALONGSIDE*** someone
- If we are to be known for our love for one another, then **BROKEN FELLOWSHIP** is a disgraceful testimony about us
- **RESTORING FELLOWSHIP** should be one of our primary goals

# 7 Steps to Restoring Fellowship



1. Talk to God **BEFORE** the other person
2. Always take the **INITIATIVE**
3. **SYMPATHIZE** with their feelings
4. **CONFESS** your part of the conflict
5. Attack the problem, **NOT** the person
6. **COOPERATE** as much as possible
7. Emphasize **RECONILIATION** not Resolution



# God is Love



- God is **LOVE**, and therefore He treasures **RELATIONSHIPS**
- It is in **LOVING OTHERS** that you are most like God
- God wants you in **REGULAR, CLOSE FELLOWSHIP** with Believers so that you can develop your **SKILLS OF LOVING**

Time

**ENERGY**

**COMFORT**

- The best expression of Love is **TIME**
- You can **GIVE** without **LOVING**
- But, you can't **LOVE** without **GIVING**
- Love means **GIVING UP** your:

**PREFERENCES**

**MONEY**



# Real Fellowship

- Membership in the Family of God is neither **INCONSEQUENTIAL** nor something to be casually **IGNORED**
- **REAL FELLOWSHIP** is **EXPERIENCING LIFE TOGETHER**



# Cultivating Real Fellowship

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1. It takes **HONESTY**
2. It takes **HUMILITY**
3. It takes **COURTESY**
4. It takes **CONFIDENTIALITY**
5. It takes **FREQUENCY**