

**The Consummation of Koinonia:  
The Church as the Body & Bride of Christ**

1 Cor 12:12-26, Eph 5:22-33, & Rev 19:6-8

**February 7, 2010**

*Questions for Study and Reflection*

1. Given that the word *koinos* means “common,” what does the word *koinonia* mean? How is this meaning affected for Christians by the fact that our connection is Christ?
2. Pastor Charlie said that since our *koinonia* is rooted in Christ, it’s rooted in love. Look up John 3:16, Eph 2:4-7, and 1 John 3:16 & 4:19 and discuss whether or not you agree. State your reasons on the basis of these and/or other texts.
3. Read John 17 and contemplate the fact that God, in saving us, is inviting us into the fellowship of the Father and the Son.
4. Read 1 Cor 12:7 and describe in your own words what Paul is trying to accomplish in chapter 12 (as well as chapters 13-14). How does this lead him to develop the metaphor of the church as the body of Christ? What do vv 12-27 tell you about the mind of God for the church?
5. Read Eph 5:22-33, paying careful attention to vv 23 & 28-31. How does the metaphor of the church as the body of Christ play into this passage? How is the metaphor of the church as the bride of Christ related to this?
6. Read Rev 19:6-8 and contemplate the marriage and consummation of Christ and his Bride, the church. Contemplate the fact that when God thinks of the church and designs her destiny this is what comes to his mind.
7. How does this meditation relate to why and how Christians must stand for God’s design for marriage and against all distortions of the same?