1. fellowship
   1. Greek word for fellowship: κοινωνία koinōnía, (pron: koy-nohn-ee'-ah); G2842, 2844; partnership, i.e. (literally) participation, or (pecuniary) benefaction:—(to) communicate(-ation), social dialogue; communion, (contri-)distribution, fellowship.
      1. fellowship, association, community, communion, joint participation, partnership
      2. the share which one has in anything, participation
      3. fellowship, intimacy
   2. “***the share which one has in anything, participation***”; Philippians 2:1; 2 Corinthians 13:13 (14); Philippians 3:10; Philemon 1:6; i.e. in the benefits of Christ's death, 1 Corinthians 10:16; in the (mystical) body of Christ or the church; 2 Corinthians 8:4; Ephesians 3:9; to obtain fellowship in the dignity and blessings of the Son of God, 1 Corinthians 1:9.
   3. ***Social dialogue, fellowship, intimacy***: the right hand as the sign and pledge of fellowship (in fulfilling the apostolic office), Galatians 2:9; what in common has light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14; used of the intimate bond of fellowship which unites Christians: absolutely, Acts 2:42; Philippians 1:5; 1 John 1:3, 7; of the fellowship of Christians with God and Christ, 1 John 1:3, 6, (which fellowship, according to John's teaching, consists in the fact that Christians are partakers in common of the same mind as God and Christ, and of the blessings arising therefrom).
   4. ***A benefaction jointly contributed, a collection, a contribution***, as exhibiting an embodiment and proof of fellowship; 2 Corinthians 8:4; 2 Corinthians 9:13; Romans 15:26; Hebrews 13:16.
   5. “Christians are not simply people who are primarily concerned about the application of Christian principles and Christian teaching…they do have concern for these things but it is not necessarily these things that makes one Christian…while the Christian must hold right views and doctrines, that is not the essence of the Christian life and Christian position. Rather it is to have fellowship with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ” (Lloyd-Jones, 74-75).
   6. In essence, the Christian gospel is to be called into ‘eternal fellowship’ with God. The beliefs, values, doctrines, disciplines, laws, gifts, etc. are all “tools” used to experience fellowship with God, and bring others into that fellowship.

Father,…glorify Your Son…as you have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. Jn. 17: 1-3

1. what does fellowship mean?
   1. Koinonia – partnership, sharing what one has with another, communion, association, intimacy
   2. First, the Christian is one who has become a sharer in the life of God, partakers or partners in His divine life. Christians are ones who believe that they are men and women who have received the divine life of God.

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2Peter 1:3-4

* 1. Second, we are partners with Him, sharers in His interests and in His great purposes. We are interested in what God is interested in, His attitude towards life and His provision for our participation in it.
  2. Third, since our fellowship is with the Father and Jesus, we can look at this communion from two perspectives – ours and God’s. We may have confidence regardless of how we ‘feel’ that God is near us and leading us; and that we have been welcomed into fellowship with Him.
     1. He gives us:
        1. His presence
        2. His voice
        3. His direction
        4. ???
     2. We give:
        1. Our lives
        2. Our attention
        3. Our obedience
        4. Our love
        5. ????

1. New testament scriptures for fellowship (Koinonia)

Act 2:42 - And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Rom 15:26 - For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem.

1Co 1:9 - God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1Co 10:16 - The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

2Co 6:14 - Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

2Co 8:4 - imploring us with much urgency that we would receive[fn] the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

2Co 9:13 - while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men,

2Co 13:14 - The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Gal 2:9 - and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

Eph 3:9 - and to make all see what is the fellowship[fn] of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;[fn]

Phl 1:5 - for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,

Phl 2:1 - Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,

Phl 3:10 - that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Phm 1:6 - that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

Heb 13:16 - But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

1Jo 1:3 - that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1Jo 1:6 - If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1Jo 1:7 - But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1. resources

Blue Letter Bible Online - <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g2842/nkjv/tr/0-1/>

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. 2002. *Life in Christ – Studies in 1 John*. Crossway, Wheaton, IL.