

Reading for “Fellowship”, with recommendations from Holy Habits in red type

Creating a Culture of Welcome in the Local Church, Alison Gilchrist Juggling with books, not knowing when to sit or stand, being glared at for sitting in the wrong seat - for many people, their first visit to a church service is about as enjoyable as a trip to the dentist. By why do churches become so unfriendly, and how can we create a culture of welcome? This practical study looks at the reality of people's experience, the roots of the problem, and offers workable strategies for bringing about a change in culture. It includes a welcome audit that can be copied and used, and supporting material on the Grove website to help tackle this crucial issue. ISBN

The Grace Outpouring, becoming a people of blessing.

Imagine a house of prayer in every town. Imagine churches filled with Christians who pray and then stand back and watch God change lives before their eyes. Imagine places around the world where God heals bodies and relationships, thinning the space between us and heaven. Get ready to do more than just imagine. **Watch God at Work** In the years since Roy and Daphne Godwin welcomed their first guests to their Christian retreat center Ffald-y-Brenin in West Wales, God has drawn thousands of seekers to this converted hill-farm with His tangible power. Come join in the story of the spiritually unexpected in *The Grace Outpouring--a reminder of how God is able to do great things in us and through us when we open ourselves to His presence. Includes study guide for individuals or groups.*

Koinonia: a recipe for authentic fellowship Charles R. Swindoll ISBN 978-0850091731

A Bible study guide comprising a series of reflections on love, humility, restoration, forgiveness and encouragement that can be used for personal reflection or by a Bible study group.

Practising Community: The Task of the Local Church Robin Greenwood ISBN 978-0281049165

What are the future prospects for the Church? If you are tired of miserable statistics and fatalistic gloom, this book offers an alternative - one which is not simply a pragmatic response to the "evil" of change, but a creative way forward, based on a closer understanding of the living God.

Living Fellowship by Helen Roseveare, ISBN 9781845503512

"God is the hub of our wheel and we are the spokes reaching out to the rim of the world. Living Fellowship examines the true meaning of biblical koinonia as a dynamic relationship between God, ourselves and others.

True fellowship will involve submission, service, and suffering. Taking each theme in turn, Helen Roseveare draws on the teaching of Scripture and personal experience to show the practical outworking of God's invitation to us to share in a relationship with Him.

A Fellowship of Differents by Scot McKnight ISBN 9780310531470

In this compelling book, Scot McKnight shares his personal experience in the church as well as his study of the Apostle Paul to answer this significant question: What is the church supposed to be? For most of us the church is a place we go to on Sunday to hear a sermon or to participate in worship or to partake in communion or to fellowship with other Christians. Church is all contained within one or two hours on Sunday morning. The church the Apostle Paul talks about is designed by God to be a fellowship of difference-how people differ socially-and differents-how people differ culturally. God did not design the church to be a two-hour experience on Sunday but a mixture of people from all across the map and spectrum: men and women, rich and poor, Caucasians or African Americans, and Mexican Americans, Latin Americans, Asian Americans, and Indian Americans, and a mixture of people with varying personalities and tastes. The church McKnight grew up in was a fellowship of sames and likes. There was almost no variety in his church. White folks, same beliefs about everything, same tastes in music and worship and sermons and lifestyle.

Because of his experience, he writes incisively and compellingly. The church is God's world-changing social experiment of bringing unlikes and differents to the table to share life with one another as a new kind of family. When this happens we show to the world what love, justice, peace, reconciliation, and life together is designed by God to be. The church is God's show-and-tell for the world to see how God wants us to live as a family.