

# Fellowship With One Another

by Erlo Stegen

*Fellowship with one another is essential for our spiritual growth and well-being, and it is only possible through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.*

**Duration:** 1:00:32

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:18, Matthew 22:39, John 17:21, 2 Corinthians 6:14, James 4:4, 1 John 1:7, 1 John 2:15

**Topics:** "Fellowship"

## Description

In this sermon, the speaker expresses concern over the phenomenon of Christians backsliding into sin after a period of revival. He emphasizes that once a person becomes a Christian, they should never go back to their old sinful ways. The speaker references a specific incident in 1968 where a Christian wedding led to the closure of bars, cinemas, and dance floors for six years, but laments that these venues were eventually reopened. He also mentions the belief that those who backslide into sin after being baptized and taking part in the Lord's Supper will face a harsher punishment in hell. The speaker encourages listeners to pause and reflect on the message and warns against the negative influence of pop music.

## Transcript

Namlanje, Siofunda, it takes lead to Enguatiniokala, Gachohane, Isasugusokala Kusugelevesi Nleskompis From 1 John 1, verse 7 Kepa umasihambe kanyeni Ndrangalukuyena ukobo ese kanyeni Kona sinenglanganielu omunyenomunye Nekasiligache sindhotanayake liaslambulula Ezonwenizomke But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we are fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin. Astrinela Please stop reading there. Kepa umasihambe kanyeni Epkanyeni gwake Ndrangalukuyena ese kanyeni If we walk in His light as He is in the light, Ekasiligache sindhotanayake liaslambulula Ezonwenizomke the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

Indigimba yendaba izwi engtanukurumangalo Siltola au iilolilikamarukuti sinenglanganielu omunyenomunye What I'd like to emphasize and focus on is the fellowship with one another. Sizokurumangalelokama eliti inklanganielu omunyenomunye So we want to speak about that fellowship with one another. Ngikumbula ngelini langa ngile Efeyenekhe ngezwaogu nyokwangkumizilizio Once when I was in Firieneke, I heard something that broke my heart.

Ngenko onto tenekuyenko su Charles Finney During a service services of Charles Finney Ubese New York of Charles Finney when he was in New York Ngasingizwa uguti Ngokshumayelawake

wapendugabaningi And I heard that through his ministry and his services many were converted Waze gwavadwa inkantini namapaiskop nezizhuzomdanzo imiaga estupa And that as a result of what happened there the bars, the cinemas, the discos the dance floors were closed for six years wangkumizilizio logu And that broke my heart.

Uguti empa we miaga estupa wapuya gwavulua inkantini indaozomdanzo namapaiskop That after six years they were re-opened, these bars and cinemas and dance floors Waba into ense uguba avalue wotogu into ekumizilizio Uguti empa we miaga estupa zivulwefut It was a wonderful thing that those places had been closed down but what is heartbreaking that after six years they were re-opened Ngia kolo uguti labobandu ababuye wavulua inkantini nezizhuzomdanzo namapaiskop Is hoko sabu siobasibi sipindwegabili And I believe the people that re-opened those venues, those dance floors the bars and the cinemas their hell will be double as bad as anyone else's Engi kumbula ului hams etalmani I remember Ului Hams in Germany He said if someone is baptised and takes part in the Lord's Supper and then backslides

into sin That person's hell will be twice as hot as for others I know there are people that say if you have become a child of the Lord you have taken part in the Lord's Supper, you've been baptised they say that then you're ok nothing can happen to you after that Uzutola inguati asizuluini Uzutole ilaisense However, when you've been baptised and you've taken part in the Lord's Supper that doesn't give you a licence just to live anyhow and do whatever you like like a licence from heaven just to do your own thing thereafter Enguateni kumaheperu isa chogose shumi imwezi ilangamashumamabili nasheagalulunye Ugutabantu abasuge bakolwe kotobawe ekolweni bazo jeziswa kakulu gunabane Kuitetabu gesayo ekumisinshizio ugutumutabu selelege asindiswe besabuye ese ese gubenjengu gushogwe zwiinja

ibuyelep shanzuinibai It's something terrible when someone is converted turns from his evil but then later slowly but surely falls back into his old life like a dog going back to its vomit Nengu lube ya shanzwa ya kezwa koto uma isi shanzhululiwe ibuyele kono otagini futi or being like a pig that's been washed, cleaned but then thereafter goes back and wallows in its mud koto gungentse gaganjani ugutumutu oselazi kini so abuyele sonuini futi How is it possible that someone who knows the truth can fall back into sin? atsugane ne so ni miyage istupa emba we miyage istupa abuyele kono sonuini futi That you stop sinning, you part with sin six years you stop doing that sin and then thereafter you go back to it again umbuzu uti loko gungentse gaganjani umbuzu lo ongesulayo ugutu gungentse

gaganjani emba we miyage istupa umutabuyele kete abuyele sonuini That's the question How is it possible and I can't explain it How is it possible that a person stops sinning for six years and then goes back to it? kati miyage istupa kuvalu e imiango enkantini namapaiskop koutou umutabuya pindele abuyele gulogu futi For six years those canteens those cinemas and those dance places they get closed and then they are opened again after six years we lazo ikilo edin gagananileo That's a disgrace gomlando wamakolua kukonuguti abamsope umabenerivaivele ishesipele Now, according to history when there is revival among white nations it doesn't last long baisegubuyegupele futi The revival stops after a while lokauksio indo efanele ugutibekona That should not be the case lokawis nengiso putiwis

kalegiso That's an abomination, it's a curse begungafanele ugutumuntu ongum kristu atlehenyova asugabuyele gulogu ktala nyaguzwalok ishazolelo ikilo ishkalegiso ugutumuntakolu kete abuyelele A Christian should never go back should never backslide should never go back to that old life That's a curse, that's an abomination should never happen ipaipele likuluma amazui anzima litiubunjalogu ubungulubelogu And the Bible speaks very seriously about such a state and refers to it as the life of a dog

or a pig begungafanele ugutumuntu ongum kristu atlehenyova A Christian should never backslide abuyelele gulogu ishazolelo ikilo should never turn back to those old things that he or she has forsaken indawzining ipaipele ungulungulugatorozi ngabantabantado And the Bible often refers to such people and

that God has no pleasure in them ungulungulugatandi ugutumuntu okoluayo unpkristu asugaslehenyova God doesn't allow that He doesn't want a Christian to go back to his sin Now the big question is what causes a Christian to go back to his old sin, to his old ways? aslele ekolueni that he regresses spiritually gungenze kakanjani unguntukoluayo ungbone epile togoza esendawene pageme kotoa nomintliziyoyakikikima emva wiskati kupele gungelo How is it possible that a Christian can have and experience that overflowing life where his heart is full of joy and overflows with the Christian life and then it stops? ngikumbula umshato ga Baba Jablantube I remember at the wedding of Baba Jablantube one Christian got up if I remember correctly it was in 1968 person got up and he said to the bridegroom he

said God has created us that we should be one there's just one thing that can separate us and that one thing is sin nothing else can separate us other than sin our text here refers to fellowship with one another that we should have fellowship with the Lord Jesus as the Lord has fellowship with God and at the same time enjoying fellowship with one another wabambim fishagalolomutu etumashugana soshuganiswa ideyotwa shuganiswa isono ngoba izwilenkositati umasihambekanyeni jongugubayenesekanyeni and it says if we walk in the light as he is in the light then we will have fellowship with one another sisangeneni jongugubayenesekanyeni esangenenoise noise esangenenoise nomoyongwele emtat emunye so we can have fellowship and should have fellowship with one another as the Father and the Son are one

and united and they are, the Trinity is one so we should enjoy such fellowship umbozuguti kumenzegakanjani usanganen ojes ubemunyenaye kanyenunkulunkulise kotwa ubuye umshlubuke so how is it possible that you can have that fellowship with the Lord and then you later forsake him ojeswati umasangenenoise umasinikeleguwe guwe sinensanganyelomunyenomunye yenuksangananat natisangenenoise and so if we have fellowship with the Lord, we are one with him so we will have fellowship and unity with one another as well engwatini kajokhanelapukuluujesakulumangeswini in the Gospel of John where the Lord speaks about the vine watisalanigimi jengekaja liseleswinini he said abide in me as the branch abides in the vine umatinasingasaliguwe if we don't abide in him siobuna we will wither we will not bear fruit

and eventually end up being thrown into the fire that's tragic if you don't abide in Jesus jengekaja liseleswinini abiding in the Lord as that branch abides in the vine that branch will just wither and die and end up being thrown into the fire gupela salvation is only possible if we abide in him as that branch abides in the vine if we do not abide in Jesus, we will wither you will notice such a person that doesn't abide in the Lord and enjoy that fellowship anymore he will wither, you will notice it he will no longer have that joy he had in the beginning and if we wither in our spiritual life we are on our way to hell ngokomoya siopila gupela umasislalan jengekaja liseleswinini kotwa ikachumalikasaleswinini liobuna gegelsale, gegeltelenestelo liolashwa emlilwini but the branch

that doesn't abide in the vine will wither, will not bear fruit and eventually end up in the fire agengbueleke kulolilikama loguba nensanganyelo omunyenomunye umaliti sinensanganyelo omunyenomunye litini who do we have fellowship with? in the first place we have fellowship with God fellowship with the Lord Jesus and with the Holy Spirit kantifuti sinensanganyelo omunyenomunye but we also then have fellowship with one another as we know there's the gospel of John but also the epistle of John kukuslanga insanganyelo nati inoise nendotana not Jesus Christ now here we read how we have fellowship with God the Father, the

Son, and the Holy Spirit kuhin to eisikalegi so uma siti silangane siakodwa kantaslangena sinensanganyelo inoise nendotana it's a curse if we call ourselves Christians and yet

we don't have and don't enjoy that fellowship with God the Father and the Son empelini begufane lugutugube itengulugitina ugubasibenensanganyelo nubaba osezulwini ungunlungulu kanyenendotana kanyenomoyengwele it's of utmost importance that we enjoy that fellowship with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit umasingakalanga uguzwaleonto singamangalangempe lugutia hau ingulugeleonto if you experience it, you experience the greatness thereof remember that Muslim woman who had a sick child and she prayed to Allah to heal her sick child and then a voice spoke to her she heard a voice saying don't pray to Allah for the healing to your old child pray to the Lord Jesus that He heals her that was the first time she ever heard the name Jesus then she said, but if I must not pray to

Allah, I must pray to Jesus who then is this Jesus? she took a dictionary and looked up she didn't have a Bible, she didn't even know about the Bible then she looked up in the dictionary to find out what this word Jesus means and it was amazing to her when she then found the name Jesus in the dictionary there she read in the dictionary that Jesus is the one the Christians believe in and regard as their Messiah or their Saviour and Redeemer who forgives them their sins and she read about how He died, He was crucified but rose again that was something amazing to her, she couldn't forget it and she realised Jesus must be someone great and to be honoured and revered and then she started praying to Jesus and saying Lord Jesus, help me and help my child and her child was healed and then as she

walked down the street in the town two people approached her and then she heard that these two people were Christians and her eyes were fixed on them and she looked carefully at them as they approached and even as they walked past she even turned around and looked at them even when they were past already wanting to see what a Christian looks like and she was amazed, she says oh so this is what a Christian looks like this is how a Christian acts, this is how they dress now I can see what a Christian is like and for her it was an amazing experience just to meet up and to see Christians and she thought these people are so privileged, they are so lucky to know the Lord Jesus and to be Christians but today what does it mean to us if we know the Lord? maybe for us it's something which we don't

even take much notice of or seriously anymore and maybe we even use the Lord's name in vain, just call out His name, use it in vain for us we just call out oh my God and use the Lord's name, Jesus' name just glibly and even the fact that He died for us and that He forgave us our sin, for us it doesn't mean anything anymore but for us it means that we are like His children, we are like His sons we are like His children, we are like His sons and even the fact that we are like His sons, it means something We'll be celebrating Christmas soon, but maybe we don't even realize the significance of Christmas anymore.

It's all just about gifts and what present I'm going to get.

The fact that God came down from heaven, came down to earth to save us from our sins, that is irrelevant to us and insignificant. If you think of what the Lord Jesus did, what God did for us, what He came to do for mankind. It doesn't even move us.

It doesn't move us anymore that He came to this earth so that we can be saved, so that we can come into a relationship with God the Father, God who is the creator of all things, and yet He wants to have fellowship with us. This must, should move us deeply, change us, should go deep to think that God, the creator of heaven and earth, wants to have fellowship with us. We should say, maybe there is no such thing possible to be one with God and the Son.

How is such a thing possible that this great God, the creator of everything, that we can be one with Him? And that should, it should be a question and that we ask ourselves, but how is such a thing possible? That we can have fellowship with God, the creator of everything, and yet He wants to have fellowship with us. And yet we can have fellowship with Him. What a great privilege that is, and what type of people shouldn't we be as a result? God who is almighty and to whom all things belong, and yet we can have fellowship with Him.

And the Lord Jesus Himself, how He was born. His life on earth, His ministry, how He died for us, everything, and yet we can have fellowship with Him. And the Lord Jesus Himself, how He was born, how He died for us, everything, and yet we can have fellowship with Him.

And that the cross has a special significance in our lives. The message of the cross, what it stands for, signifying that relationship with God, that we can be reconciled to God, and horizontally as well, reconciled to one another because the cross, Christ takes away the enmity, the sin that separated us from God and from one another. And that becomes something very precious to us because it creates that bond, that unity, which is possible through Christ, where there is no Jew, no Roman, no black or white, but where everyone becomes united and is one in Christ.

And through Christ, we can have fellowship with one another. And also, have fellowship with the Son. He who suffered and was beaten, who shed His blood, suffered and died for us so that we can have fellowship with Him.

And so John says that we can then have fellowship with God the Father, God the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Now the Holy Spirit isn't specifically mentioned in this particular verse. That the Bible is full of it, in the Old and in the New Testament, where it speaks of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and that unity that exists through them, and that as a result, we can have fellowship with God the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and with one another.

But then it also says that if we claim to have fellowship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and don't have fellowship with one another, then we are liars. If we are in the light, as God is in the light and walk in the light, then we will have fellowship with one another. So you are then one with your brother, yet if you claim to be one with Christ and not one with your brother, it cannot be true.

Now John goes on to say that we have seen Him, we have heard Him, so that we have fellowship with one another. So this has a deep meaning. If you say you have fellowship with God, with the Father, and yet your brother whom you can see, you are not one with.

The Bible says that you actually are a liar if you say you have fellowship with Christ, and you are not one with your brother that you are with. If you are with a brother, you are with him, and yet you are not one with him, you are a liar if you say you have fellowship with Christ. If you speak, if you read about the early church in Jerusalem, they were of one heart, one soul.

They even shared all things. They had everything in common. So when you see your brother in need, you can't just look on and not help.

If you have fellowship with God, you are one with him, and yet you are not one with him, you are a liar if you say you have fellowship with Christ. So having fellowship with one another has a very deep significance, and if you are with a brother and you are not one with him, you don't have fellowship with

him, you must know that you are on your way to hell. That's what the cross brings about.

The cross takes away the enmity and brings about a unity, a love towards one another, a unity. That's what the cross does. So that cross, when it's at work, it does its work in your life, but it also does something between you and your brother.

If you are one with God and your brother is one with God, how can it not bring about a unity between you? You can read in the Old and the New Testament, make a study of it, and you will find everywhere how there is that unity between the children of God. The Bible is full of it. So when we speak about God and about Christ, we're speaking of someone that's in me and in the next person, and that joins us together.

So you can see your fellowship with your brother, and that becomes a mirror for you to reflect your relationship with Christ. That's why God's Word says that if you claim to love God and you don't love your brother, you're a liar. The Lord said heaven and earth will pass away, but not one letter of what's written in the Bible will pass away, and on Judgment Day, God's Word will judge us.

If you say you love God but you don't love your brother, you're a liar. The truth is not in you. You're on your way to hell.

There's no other place because you're not going to heaven. If you are one with God, you will be one with those that are one with Him. You cannot have fellowship with God if you don't have fellowship with those that serve Him.

In the Old Testament, the word *selah* is used, which means just stop and pause for a moment and think about this. Especially in the Psalms, you will often read in the Psalm, and then there's this word *selah*, which means stop, pause, think about this for a moment. But let's just stop and think about what we've heard.

The problem is, we don't stop and think. Someone told me that if you listen to pop music, which people do in their rooms, and some have these earphones and they listen to it even while they're walking along. Now this person told me that if you take an egg, a fresh egg, and you put it near to where this music is played, that egg will turn hard.

That's why the people that listen to this music end up being affected, even in their minds. You become stupid. You become stupid.

What type of music do you listen to? Is it music that imparts wisdom that you benefit from, or does it do the opposite to you? Do you listen to music that harms you, that makes you blunt? Let me draw it to a close. If sin comes into your life, it harms you. And that fellowship stops.

It parts you from God and from other Christians. Bring separation and you go your own way. Separated from God.

Separated also from your brother. Let me end there. If sin comes in, it brings an end to spiritual things in your life.

You will not prosper. You will not succeed. You won't enjoy that overflowing life.

And you just are attracted by the things of the world. And sometimes you're amazed and you wonder, how can someone be so attracted by the things of the world? When we have Jesus, we have God, we have the

Holy Spirit, that should attract us. That should draw us, captivate us.

Everything else should mean nothing to us. And that we'll just seek one thing, and that is fellowship with God. That one thing is important, that you are God's child, that you say, Lord, I want to be one with you, that nothing separates us.

I want to have fellowship with you. If we are not weak or sick, let's stand and we can pray together. I pray, Lord, that your word will not be in vain.

Lord, that we will not be Christians that are actually liars who claim to have fellowship with you, and yet there's no unity among us. May we be like that early church in Jerusalem that will be one heart, one soul, one word. May we not be lukewarm Christians, Christians that tell lies, but that we will have fellowship with one another, that we'll understand and live that.

Amen. Amen.

---

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/28/SID28166.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/erlo-stegen/fellowship-with-one-another/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**