

BISHOP FELTON HAWKINS

Kingdom Community
**A COMMUNITY
OF ONE**

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Genesis 1:26-27

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

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- At the core of community, we see what would be considered a mystery to many as to the fact that there is only one God.
 - This is revealed to us in the New Testament writings as the Godhead, which reveals the nature of God the father, God the son, and God the Holy ghost, three distinct aspects of one spirit we know as God.
 - God himself is a spiritual community of one. There are not many spirits but one spirit in essence, which manifests different characteristics.

Romans 1:20

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

- Even as a man, Jesus was not a separate God but rather an extension of God that took on the nature of man, never losing his God status as Jesus.
- We, in and of ourselves, are community because we are spirits, we have a soul, and we live in a body.

- The first community we have to work on is the community of me, myself, and I. When we are not whole, focused, disciplined, and mission-oriented we become the weak link in community.
- A chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and the one weak link will always compromise the strength of the whole.
- The word prosperity means peace, wholeness, being in proper harmony for the purpose for which we exist.
- It is hard to prosper when you are divided, disconnected, and in chaos. The Bible says that a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

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- Our greatest challenge is being responsible for the community of self, managing the community of self, developing the community of self, and working on the community of self before we can partner with and assist others in our community.
 - The power of community is about synchronizing our efforts, gifts, and resources with others on one accord, one purpose, one vision, one language, and one God.

Hebrews 2:16-18

16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

- It is clear, while Jesus took on the nature of man, he never disconnected himself from God but instead remained connected, in harmony, and committed to God's purpose for his life.
- He says, "I and my father are one," and he prayed for the unity and oneness of those who joined his community.
- People often make the mistake of thinking that because their names are on the same document, it automatically makes them one. Of course, this is a fallacy because having the same last name does not make you one. Having your name on the same membership role does not make us one. Being in the same geographical location does not make us one.

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- Many of us are trying to be one with someone who we have no intention of submitting, respecting, and supporting unless it totally benefits us
 - Jesus says that not everyone who says Lord Lord will enter into his kingdom.

Colossians 2:8-10

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

- Paul said that we are whole in him; we are complete in him; we are at peace with our connection with him, and until we realize this for ourselves there is no reason to try and victimize others.
- God said about Adam and Eve that they should become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24-25

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

- He did not say that they should be clones of one another.
- He does not say that you have to think alike.
- He does not say that you will like and enjoy all the same things.
- He does not say that you will have all the same interests.

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- Being one is about respecting yourself and one another.
 - Being one is about honoring the boundaries of others.
 - Being one is about honoring one another's goals and dreams in life.
 - Being one is about committing to agree on what we agree on and the ability to agree to disagree when necessary for a greater purpose and plan.

Matthew 5:25-26

25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

- Jesus shows us the power of agreement even when it comes to our enemies. Sometimes the greatest way to defeat your enemies is to agree with them. A way to loose yourself from being entangled with your enemies is to use the power of agreement.