

## MESSAGE # 4: HIS LIFE: A LIFE OF FELLOWSHIP

Biblical passages: Mark 1:15 ff

### I. Introducing the Subject:

My grandfather defined fellowship as “men in the same boat rowing the same direction”. He was not a theologian but I always thought that a pretty fair definition. In a biblical sense we say that fellowship is being with others in life for achieving the purposes of God. It refers very broadly to our lives being lived together. In our Lord’s life we read of a few very private moments but much more of His time with the disciples and the multitudes. His was not a hermit’s existence by any stretch of the imagination. Whether teaching or traveling, He was a “people person” and much of His ministry was accomplished through that end. You may begin a study in Mark 1:29 and follow it through the Gospels to see the closeness of His associations and the effectiveness of His ministry thereby. And that leads us to conclude that a life of fellowship is a great norm. We are not a bunch of individuals wandering through life like shooting stars in the galaxy but a corporate body of souls needing to give and to receive the fellowship of one another.

### II. Discussion:

#### A. The varieties of fellowship and there are at least these three:

1. Fellowship of life: living together as a company and having a common goal as in Mark 3:14
2. Fellowship of activity as in Mark 1:35 and following
3. Fellowship of purpose or intention or maybe even the setting of a goal as in Mark 7:36

All of these, and some others are classes of activity where the Lord is seen joined to others and enjoining others.

#### B. The parties of fellowship, sketched in two groups with many subdivisions possible but unnamed here:

1. One’s own (family, group, corporate association, etc)
2. One’s field (those outside the circle where we win and bring others to a center of activity or truth)