

FOUNDATION & BASIS OF FELLOWSHIP

- Human reality & necessity of community
- No man is an island

- *Where does this need come from?*
- *Comes from a spiritual reality.*

GENESIS 1

- ⦿ ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”
- ⦿ ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.



WHAT IS IMAGO DEI?

- ***Essential image (think, feel, choose)***
- ***Functional image (ability, dominion)***
- ***Relational image (desire and capacity to relate)***

WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL REALITY?

- **MATT 3:16** As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”
- Father loves the Son

WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL REALITY?

- John 14:31 but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.
- Son loves Father and does what Father desires

WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL REALITY?

- John 15: 26 “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. ²⁷ And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.
- Spirit testifies about Jesus

○ WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL REALITY?

- REALTIONAL
REALITY
- HARMONIOUS,
OTHER CENTERED
RELATIONAL
REALITY
- FELLOWSHIP
THRIVES IN AN
OTHER CENTERED
RELATIONAL
REALITY

FALLEN HUMAN REALITY

- Relational reality not negated
- Me first, self centered attitude
- Exploitation of others - what can I get
- Suspicion of others
- Fellowship discouraged

CONCLUSIONS

- ◉ Man cannot be outside a relational reality
- ◉ Communion of Father / Son / Spirit is the ultimate relational reality
- ◉ Our choice: Relational Hell
- ◉ Relational Heaven
- ◉ The Joy of Fellowship