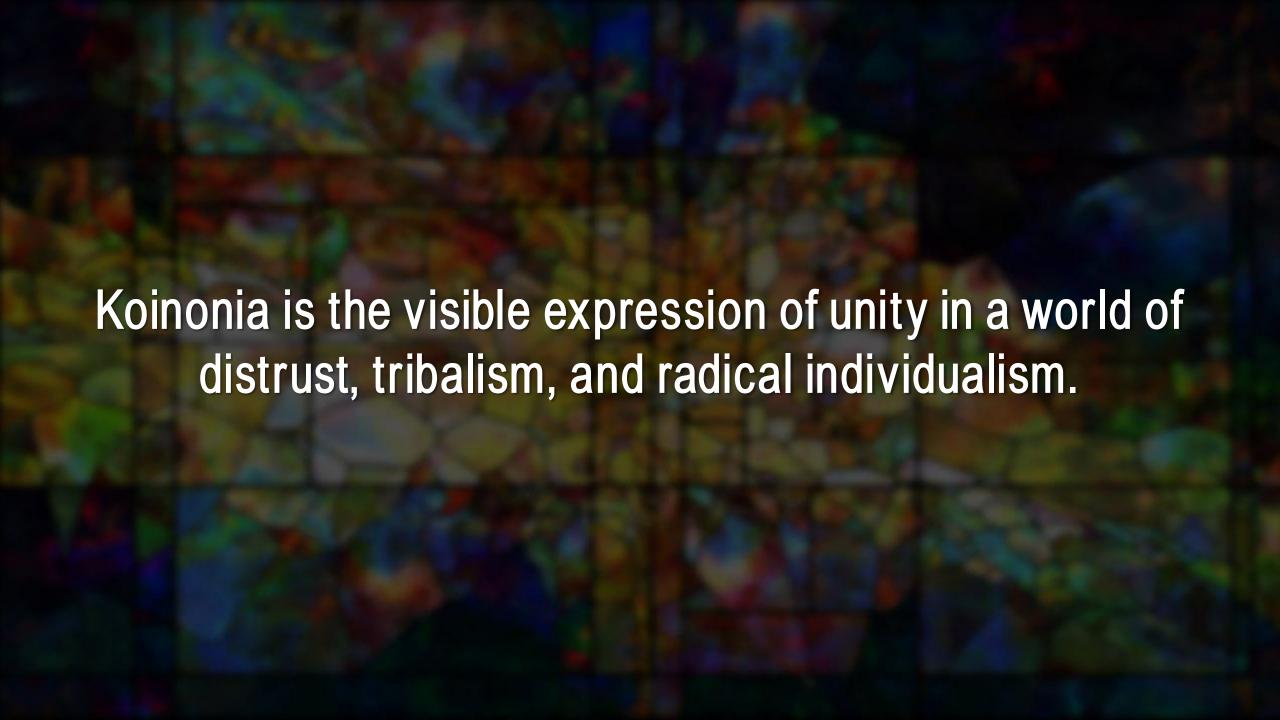


the HOUSEHOLD of GOD **EPHESIANS 2:19**

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."

God rescues His children out of the orphanage of the whole world that is broken mankind and places us into His new family—His household—the church.

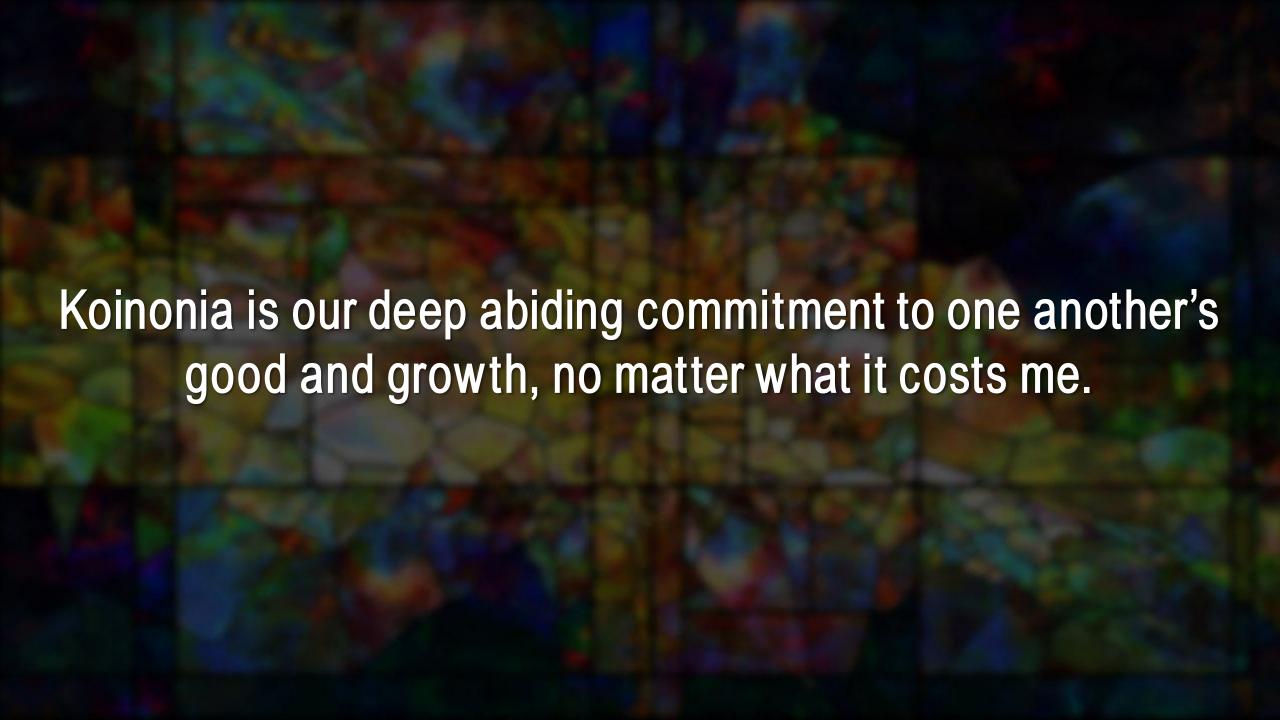
Koinonia is the English transliteration of the Greek word that appears in the NT, 19 times. It is first used in Acts 2:42 to describe the new priorities that characterized all believers right after the church was born.



The essential element of koinonia is our connection to God & one another through Christ.

"I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. 'I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."



Most people want to dip their toes into the waters of community to see whether they like the temperature—whether it's a comfortable temperature for ME!

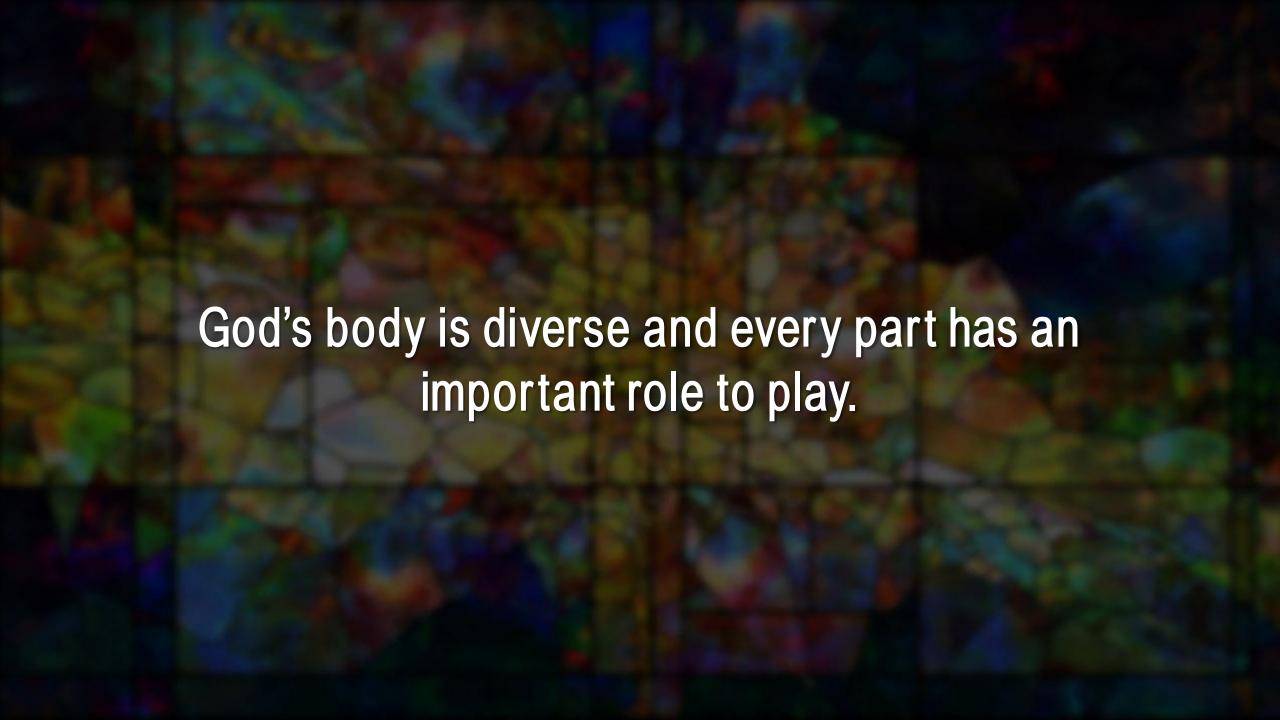
Quit testing the waters for ME and dive into the WE!

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.'

On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."



Q) Are you a part of this great family?
What group of people here at TBC have you committed to meet with regularly and do life with?

Jesus is calling us out of the radical individualism of ME and into His glory — genuine koinonia where we find our life in WE & not ME. The gospel life is only found through death. We die to self and live to God & His people.

"But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, because we wanted to come to you—I Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before the Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy."