

Ralph P. Martin

The Family and the Fellowship: New Testament Images of the Church

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Ever since the Church originated, fellowship has been one of the major characteristics of Christianity. This fact is well supported in the New Testament also. Though many Christians today agree that their response to the demand of the gospel must be communal as well as individual, the very flaws evident in the Church today are clear proofs that they cannot find a necessary place for the latter in the plan of God. In order to lead them to an increased awareness of what Church life can mean, Ralph Martin has written this book.

He has attempted to provide an insightful look at what the New Testament has to say about the Church. For this Martin discusses in highly descriptive and practical terms the origin of the Church, both in Jesus' mission and at Pentecost, the term 'fellowship', the gifts of the Spirit, the work of the ministry, the sacramental life of the Church and the role of the Church in Society. And the final chapter examines