

PATHMARK · COURSE FIVE

THE DOCTRINE OF

Fellowship

Life together in Christ

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ... And all who believed were together and had all things in common.

ACTS 2:42, 44 · ESV

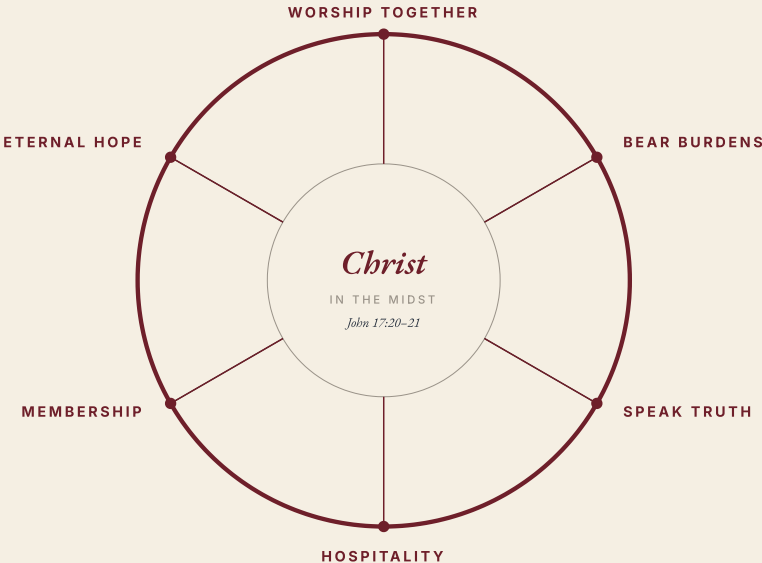
We share life as a family in Christ, bearing one another's burdens, speaking truth in love, and pursuing the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

MAYFLOWER CHURCH · KINGSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

THE CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP

Christ at the center • Love at the circumference

Six segments name the practices that hold the body together.



WORSHIP TOGETHER

Devoted to teaching, breaking of bread, and the prayers (Acts 2:42).

BEAR BURDENS

Carry what is not yours; fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).

SPEAK TRUTH

Truth in love; iron sharpens iron; the goal is always restoration.

HOSPITALITY

Open homes. Shared tables. Strangers welcomed as family.

MEMBERSHIP

A covenant, not a registration. Voluntary commitment to specific people.

ETERNAL HOPE

The fellowship is forever. Every Sunday is a rehearsal of glory.

Am I devoting myself to the four marks?

The first church was held together by four practices. Audit honestly.

APOSTLES' TEACHING	<i>Am I sitting under sound preaching and reading Scripture in a real rhythm?</i>	☐ ☐ ☐	weak / growing / strong
THE FELLOWSHIP	<i>Am I sharing real life with brothers and sisters — burdens, joys, time, table?</i>	☐ ☐ ☐	weak / growing / strong
BREAKING OF BREAD	<i>Am I receiving the Lord's Supper as a member of the body, and eating together in homes?</i>	☐ ☐ ☐	weak / growing / strong
THE PRAYERS	<i>Am I praying with others — for one another, for the church, for the lost?</i>	☐ ☐ ☐	weak / growing / strong

What is the next step the Lord is asking me to take in fellowship at Mayflower?

Encourage one. Serve one. Bear one's burden.

Write three names from your Mayflower family. Be specific. Name the action. Name when.

ENCOURAGE Name A note · text · word at coffee hour When	SERVE Name A meal · ride · help · time When	BEAR BURDEN Name What they are carrying My next move
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WHAT MAYFLOWER MEMBERSHIP MEANS

Membership is a <i>covenant</i>, not a registration. It is the visible expression of an invisible reality: you belong to Christ, and therefore to His people. To become a member is to <i>bind yourself</i> to specific brothers and sisters in a specific place — not to attend, but to walk together. It means you have given the elders the authority to shepherd you, correct you, and pray for you; and that you have committed to the same care for others.	It is sealed at baptism for those not yet baptized, and confessed before the church for those joining from another body. The 1689 Confession (ch. 26) describes the local church as “<i>a company of believers who have voluntarily bound themselves to walk in faith and obedience to Christ.</i>” If you have completed Pathmark and are not yet a member, ask the elders about the next step.
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