## DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

27-31 January 2003

# ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT #3 – FELLOWSHIP

#### INTRODUCTION:

• What makes Christian fellowship distinct?

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:**

Note: Three thousand people had recently been added to "the church" as a result of the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:41) These were mostly Jews and converts to Judaism and from out of town. (Acts 2:11) In today's Christian culture, "breaking bread" is another name for the "Lord's supper". Prayer was an essential part of all their time together. Fellowship - The condition of sharing similar interests, ideals, or experiences, as by reason of profession, religion, or nationality (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language)

### **Read Acts 2:42-47**

- What are some of the activities of the early church as described in verses 42-45?
- What kind of relationships might have been created by doing these things?
- How might people have known each other's needs?
- What gets in the way of such deep relationships today?
- What is the nearest you've come to the close fellowship described here?
- How does your Discipleship Group fellowship compare to that of the early church?

#### **APPLICATION:**

- What can you do to make your Discipleship Group have better fellowship?
- How can we apply the admonition of Heb 10:24,25?

Fellowship takes a person from outside and slowly incorporates them into the church over a period of time. It is part of the maturing process. Without solid Christian fellowship, the Christian will not mature properly. Rather he or she will remain immature —

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. 1 Cor 13:11

Like music, giving, baptism, and communion, *fellowship*, real fellowship is an act of worship. It is about developing relationships that build us up. It is about allowing God's people to influence how we live our lives and how we understand our faith.

Chaplain Brad Lewis, Ft. Polk, LA October 2002