

Fellowship's THE VINE

CONVERSATIONS OF FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH 

Hey Johnny, welcome to the very first edition of **The Vine**!

Each Wednesday, we'll share a little encouragement from God's Word, reflect on what we learned together Sunday, highlight what's happening in the life of our church, and share ways we can be praying for one another.

Our hope is that The Vine becomes more than another email in your inbox. We want it to help us carry what happens on Sunday into the rest of our week, while staying connected as a church family. After all, following Jesus isn't just a Sunday thing!

Carrying Sunday With You

Unlikely Sources — Week 2: God Put Them Here

This past Sunday, we continued our Unlikely Sources series ([watch it here](#)) in 1 Corinthians 12:15–20, discovering two important truths:

- **Don't Despise the Difference:** Being different doesn't make someone less valuable or less important to Christ's body.
- **Discern the Design:** God intentionally arranged His church with different people, gifts, experiences, and perspectives.

Paul reminds us: *"But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be."* — 1 Corinthians 12:18 (NIV)

THINK ABOUT IT

We naturally gravitate toward people who are like us. Similar ages, political leanings, interests, and life experiences make relationships easier. And there's nothing wrong with that necessarily!

But what might we be missing when we only surround ourselves with people who are like us or tell us what we want to hear? That older couple might have wisdom about marriage you haven't gained yet. That younger believer might offer a perspective you haven't considered. Someone who has walked through a difficult season might encourage you in ways others cannot. Begin to see the humanity in the unified diversity that Jesus uses to build His Church.

REMEMBER: Christ is our source, but He often expresses His grace we need through the people He has placed around us. You are a part of the Body of Christ but not the complete body of Christ.

We don't have to be alike to belong together. We belong because of Jesus!

Around the Table

Take a few minutes to think through these questions personally or discuss them with someone this week.

- *Are there people you've overlooked because they are different? Maybe affiliate w/ different political party, have different life experiences? Why is that?*
- *What wisdom or encouragement might you be missing by staying within your usual circle?*
- *Who could you intentionally connect with this week?*

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Identify one person at Fellowship outside your usual circle. Introduce yourself, invite them to coffee, or simply take time to hear their story.

You might discover that God has placed someone in your life you didn't even realize you needed!

Life on the Vine

What's Happening at Fellowship

LEADER SPOTLIGHT

GAVIN AUSTRIA - WORSHIP

Q- How long have you been at Fellowship?

A- 2022? Since City Grace and Faith Bible married/merged.

Q- What do you love most about serving in your ministry?

A- What I love most about serving in the worship ministry is glorifying Jesus and helping others meet Him through song. It is a privilege to be used by God and to play a small part in what He is doing in people's lives.

Q- What's something people might be surprised to learn about you?

A- I'm a very organized person. I like having things in order, and I usually can't relax or go to bed until the house is at least decently clean.

Q- How can we pray for you?

A- Please pray that God remains the focus of our worship team and that everything we do points people to Jesus. Also, pray for my family and me as we enter a new season with our firstborn, Elijah, starting preschool. We're excited but also trusting God for wisdom, peace, and guidance through this transition.

Gavin, we appreciate you and are thankful for you and how you use your talents and giftedness to help us keep our eyes and hearts on Jesus! **#BetterTogether**

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

AWANA

What do you get with 25 young people from ages 3yo - 4th grade every Wednesday evening? Our excellent **Awana** program. Jessie Tonegatto has incredibly built a dynamic team of volunteers that help with registration, safety, teaching and serving snacks so that these kids can learn about Jesus and what it means to follow Him.

Looking to be a part of something way bigger than yourself? Learn more and see how you fit in serving on this awesome team by clicking [HERE](#).

Coming Up

BELONG+BECOME - Introduction to Fellowship Bible Church

Want to learn more about Fellowship Bible Church and what it means to be part of our church family? Join us for Belong + Become, where we'll explore who we are, what we believe, and how you can grow, serve, and connect at Fellowship.

You'll also learn what it means to **become a Covenant Partner** (*member*) of our church.

[Learn More + Register Here](#)

SEND ME — Raising Up the Next Generation of Ministry Leaders

On Saturday, **November 7**, churches from across Metro Detroit will gather for the SEND ME Conference at Berkley Community Church.

This one-day conference is geared towards 16yo-30'somethings (*but not limited to*) to encourage, equip and help guide as they ask "God, what do you want me to do with my life?" Perhaps God may be calling them to serve through missions, church planting, pastoral ministry, or their everyday careers... we want to offer clarity and direction.

Please be praying that God would use this gathering to raise up people who are willing to say, "*Here am I. Send me!*"

Have interest in serving at this event or attending? Learn more by clicking button.

<https://www.thisisfellowship.com/sendme>

[Check out our Church Calendar](#)

Pray with Fellowship

If you are in need of prayer, you can always send us your prayer request online.

<https://thisisfellowship.com/prayer>

For Our Church: Pray that we would grow in our appreciation for the different people God has brought together at Fellowship, learning to encourage and serve one another with Christlike love.

For One Another: Pray for those who may be feeling disconnected, discouraged, or alone. Ask God to use our church family to bring encouragement and meaningful relationships. Perhaps you may be someone's answered prayer for connection.

For Our Mission: Pray for the Reedys. Ryan & Bethany shared this past Sunday in how God is using them with SEND International. Pray for wisdom, discernment and guidance as Bethany meets with and develops missionaries going into the field. Pray for wisdom, innovation and compassion as Ryan serves missionaries with all things tech related.



Johnny Best
Fellowship Bible Church Of Livonia



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