

The Church: A New Kinship Community

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- I. Introduction
 - A. Tertullian on the Theater
 - B. Cyprian to Eucratius
 - C. Tertullian
 - D. Julian the Apostate
 - E. Lucian of Samosata
- II. Family in the NT

III. Sibling Solidarity

IV. Church Family Values

A. Sharing Material Resources

B. Non-Retaliation

i. Ancient Honor Culture

a. Plutarch on Honor among Siblings

b. Paul on Brothers Suing Brothers

C. Affective Solidarity

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Jesus and Family

- i. Relational Virtue
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Evangelical Relational Priorities

- iii. Cyprian on Family Loyalty
- iv. Focus on which Family?

Evangelical Relational Priorities

Jesus' Relational Priorities

V. Some Crucial Qualifications

A.

B.

VI. Conclusion



Dr. Hellerman's Select Bibliography:

Allen, Holly C. and Christine L. Ross. *Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community and Worship*. Intervarsity: Downers Grove, 2012.

Reads at times like a thesis/dissertation, but offers much in the way of theory and practice regarding intergenerational ministry.

Banks, Robert. *Going to Church in the First Century*. Jacksonville: The SeedSowers, 1980.
A delightful piece of historical fiction that portrays early Christian community in a user-friendly way. A great tool to use with church leaders or in a small group setting.

Banks, Robert. *Paul's Idea of Community*. Rev. ed. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994.
The classic that fueled the discussion of early Christian social relations. A bit dated now.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Faith in Community*. New York: Harper & Row, 1954.

Hellerman, Joseph H. *The Ancient Church as Family: Early Christian Communities as Surrogate Kinship Groups*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2001.

UCLA doctoral dissertation repacked for an academic audience. All history and culture. No contemporary application.

Hellerman, Joseph H. *When the Church was a Family: Recapturing Jesus' Vision for Authentic Christian Community*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2009.

The Ancient Church as Family reworked for church leaders, with attention given to contextualization in the evangelical church.

Hellerman, Joseph H. *Embracing Shared Ministry: Power and Status in Early Christianity and Why It Matters Today*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2013.

The first half of the book considers Jesus' use of power and status, through a reading of Philippians 2:6-11 against the background of Roman honor and shame. The second half argues for team leadership as the social context that is most conducive to leading like Jesus.

McIntosh, Gary and Alan McMahon. *Being the Church in a Multi-Ethnic Community: Why It Matters and How It Works*. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2013.

A sensible approach that realistically addresses the challenging pragmatics of multi-ethnic ministry, while still retaining the biblical ideal.