

DAY 1

Your Journey Starts Here

Community: Day 04

"Pennies in a Jar" by Matthew Weathers

1 John 1:1-4

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ²The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete."

Where did all the coins go? I read a headline last week talking about whether or not to do away with pennies. In commercials, Visa now has a great song-and-dance to show you how incompatible and useless exact change is anymore, and in my family we really only use coins to reward my son for chores. Coins just aren't as useful as they once were. There was a time when everyone carried and used coins, when you could find your grandfather in a crowd by the jingle of his change. I suggest that if you want to understand the essence of fellowship and community, go find some coins, and just hold them as you read.

The term "coin" comes from the Greek word for fellowship and community: koinonia. Basically, it means "having something in common." It sums up a relationship of give and take; it describes a joint investment. In koinonia, there is a real aspect of 'doing life together' that creates trust and compassion. The incredible aspect of fellowship as believers in Christ is that we are united by that one fact, which is now shaping the way we view ourselves and the world.

This community of believers will be our strength and joy in the good and bad of life. In the next few weeks, take a jar and fill it with coins, putting it somewhere obvious at home. Each time you see it, remember that there is a community who believes in God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ, and who wants to share and invest in life with you. You are not alone, there is a fellowship that needs and wants you to be a part of it. Welcome to community.