

## “One Anothering”

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- My passion for the church (growth through testimony)
- The Lord adds to our number but he does it through our love for one another
- Nouns made into verbs (google)
- One anothering is embracing all the one another passages. There are approximately 59 of them so I had to pick a few.

### 1. Love One Another

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- The umbrella under which all the others rest. When we embrace this we tend to naturally do the others.
- Let’s talk just a moment about the love Jesus talked about. Look at 1 John

*1 Jn. 4:7-12 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

- We know what love is because we know God and he is love.
- We are the recipients of the greatest demonstration of love the world has ever known. The giving of God’s only Son that we may have life.

- We have received the greatest love so we ought to share it with each other.
- By sharing this love with each other the world may see God's love manifested. And as Jesus told us that's how it will know we are his disciples.

Let's put some flesh on this love. Look at 1 Jn. 3:16-18

*By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup> But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.*

This love is continuous sacrificial action, not just words.

## 2. Encourage and Build One Another Up

*1 Thess. 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

Encourage – parakaleite - exhort, admonish, persuade, incite,

Build up- oikodomeite – to construct and advance a person's spiritual condition

- One thing I want us to see in these is that they are addressed to the body at large, not pastors or other specific ministers. They are speaking to everyone in the church.

How do we do this? Everything we do in the church for the sake of encouraging and building up in through the exercise of spiritual gifts. We use gifts of speech and acts of service and mercy. More on these gifts see 1 Cor. 12.

## 3. Speak truth to one another (eph. 4:25)

*Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.*

- Speaking truth is hard and dangerous. The only thing that can make it less hard and much less dangerous is speaking it directly from its source, the Bible.
- There is also a certain way it needs to be done. In love. Eph. 4:15
- Do not be afraid to speak the truth to one another but do it with fear and trembling. Do it with great reverence and understanding.

#### 4. Be Hospitable with One Another

*1 Peter 4:9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

- The Greek word for hospitable implies “strangers”. But the context is to believers. You know what that means? You have to show hospitality to people you don’t already know and like. That’s why it says “without grumbling”
- What is hospitality? *the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.*
- It’s about opening your life and letting God’s people in for no other reason than they are God’s people.
- It is about your sanctification and God’s eternal plan of redemption. It is a mechanism that God uses to advance and build his kingdom. Do not neglect it!

#### 5. Stir Up one another to love and good works

*Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,*

- Joey Burkner is a great example. But we all need to do this more on a micro level.
- Remember that good works are more than in-church ministries.

How can we stir each other up? Commit yourself and drag someone else along.  
(Blaine and my dad)

## 6. Accept One Another as Christ has Accepted you

*Rom. 15:7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

- Did Jesus tell you that he would save you when you got your act together, dressed right, liked the same kind of music, agreed with all his theology? He welcomed you as a wretched sinner saved by grace. He did so knowing he was going to sanctify you but he didn't expect perfection when you were saved. He welcomed us with open arms. We should welcome each other the same way. Jesus will clean his people up and sanctify them. We don't have to try and assume that role. Who are we to think we are any better.

Closing:

- There are so many more. I did not choose "bear one another's burdens" (Gal. 6:2) because you know it already. Or Greet one another with a kiss ([Ro 16:16](#); [1 Co 16:20](#); [2 Co 13:12](#)) because that's weird.
- The one anothers serve as a great way to measure the temperature of your church and yourself as an individual Christian.
- I believe a healthy church is one that thrives in the one anothers and a healthy church will be a multiplying church.
- Will you join in on an effort to fulfill the law of love and see if God doesn't choose to add to our numbers daily those who are being saved?