

## The One Anothers of the New Testament - Part 2

1CORINTHIANS, GALATIANS, EPHESIANS

### STIMULATE

\*\* In our last study we saw that our obedience to the Lord is not a passive role, but instead one that we should be actively involved with daily. What were we to "present" to God on a daily basis?

"...your bodies a living and holy sacrifice"

\*\* What two word phrase described the high level of commitment required?

"No Compromise"

\*\* After learning that we are members of one another, what were the seven "one another" commands that we learned in our last study?

1. be devoted to one another
2. give preference
3. be of the same mind (no partiality)
4. build up
5. accept one another
6. admonish
7. greet

### MOTIVATE

\*\* In today's study we will be continuing our journey through the New Testament as we enjoy the next set of "one another" commands. To do this we will travel together through three more epistles by the beloved apostle Paul.

Remember, you are not only hearing the authoritative, inspired Word of God, but you are hearing from the very heart of the apostle. That is why he would tell the Corinthians and us to "be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ" (1Corinthians 11:1)

Opening Prayer

### INVESTIGATE

\*\* Let's begin by opening our Bibles to 1Corinthians, chapter 12, verses 22-25. You should remember this passage from last time as we saw the importance of each individual member of the body of Christ. Today, we will go even deeper to find out how we are to treat one another.

READ PASSAGE (V.22-25)

**V.22** \*\* What is Paul referring to when he says, "on the contrary"?

The statement made in verse 21 by one member of the body regarding another...  
"I have no need of you".

\*\* What is wrong with that statement according to Paul, here in verse 22?

"it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary..."

**V.23-24**

\*\* How are we to treat the "unseemly" members of the body of Christ?

V.23 - "we bestow more abundant honor"

V.24 - "giving more abundant honor"

\*\* What is an unseemly member?

The word used here for unseemly is aschemon and means lit. "shapeless". Its usage here is referring to the members of the body of Christ who are not high profile or in the forefront of public view. Their use is a "behind the scenes" kind of effort that is to be held in more abundant honor.

**V.25** \*\* When these members are so honored, what is avoided?

"division in the body"

\*\* This leads us to the first one another command for today. What are we to do for each other that will insure the absence of division?

1) "have the same care for one another"

\*\* What are some ways of caring for other Christians?

Praying, feeding, clothing, comforting, sharing, talking, spending time, listening, admonishing.

\*\* What does the word "same" imply?

Again, from last time, show no partiality! Don't limit yourself to caring for just your favorite brothers and sisters in the Lord, but remain open to whomever He brings across your path.  
(Romans 12:16)

For our next "one another" please join me in Galatians, chapter 5. Here Paul addresses our freedom from the law and legalism as a means of salvation, but warns us to not turn that freedom into an opportunity for the flesh to gain a sinful control over us. Let's pick up his instruction in verse 13.

**V.13** \*\* Here an often repeated doctrine is again mentioned, how does Paul say that we are saved?

"you were called..." The doctrine of election.

\*\* What are we to avoid?

Taking our position in Christ for granted and giving our flesh an opportunity to lead us into sinful behavior.

\*\* What are we commanded to do instead?

2) "...serve one another"

\*\* What is the vehicle by which that service is best rendered?

"through love" Do you recall the attitude we saw last time that would enable us to not compromise this command to serve one another?

Humility! Humility! Humility! cf. Romans 12:3

The very next chapter, here in Galatians, contains our next instruction on "one anotherhood".

## **Chapter 6 -**

**V. 2** \*\* What are we to do for each other?

3) "Bear one another's burdens..."

That phrase contains two powerful words. The first is *bastazo* - to take up, carry and is in the present tense, meaning that we are to continually be doing this. And the second is *baros* - a weight which implies that we are going to have to be close enough to our brothers and sisters to know what it is that is weighing them down. This goes way beyond any superficial type of relationship.

\*\* When we do this, what are we fulfilling?

"...the law of Christ." which is the law of love. cf. Galatians 5:14, Romans 13:8, 10

Let's now turn to Paul's letter to the Ephesians for our final commands for this study on how believers are to treat one another.

## **Ephesians, chapter 4**

**V. 2** \*\* Beginning in verse one of this chapter, what is Paul begging us to do?

"...walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called."

\*\* And now, here in verse two, what can we show toward each other that will truly be worthy of our calling?

4) "...forbearance to one another in love"

This word is also of great importance. It is *anecho* and means to hold up or bear with. It carries the idea of patience or being willing to joyfully suffer for a long time.

**V.32** \*\* Our next command introduces a trilogy of Christ honoring treatment toward one another.

5) "be kind to one another..." Is that a passive, just happens automatically kind of thing? No...it takes planning and self-sacrifice.

\*\* What will naturally flow from our kindness?

Tenderheartedness and Forgiveness

\*\* What pattern are we to follow in the magnitude of our forgiveness.

"just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

Let's read **chapter 5:18-21** for the last two commands for today.

**V.19** \*\* What very base part of life does the Holy Spirit now address in the one another commands?

6) How we speak to one another, the praises of God!

\*\* What kind of attitude do you think is behind this kind of conversation between believers?

Very positive, upbeat and thankful! cf. Philippians 4:8

\*\* By what are we going to need to be controlled in order to always speak in this manner?

The Holy Spirit Himself! cf. V.18

Then last, but not least, how do we view each other?

**V.21** \*\* What do you suppose Paul means by "be subject" to one another?

7) "...be subject to one another..."

hupotasso - originally as a military term, this word meant to arrange or rank under. Here, Paul is saying that Holy Spirit controlled Christians will desire to rank themselves under one another.

This is what Paul had in mind when he instructed the Philippians and where we learned to regard one another as more important than ourself. cf. Philippians 2:3

\*\* What great motivator does Paul give us to do this very humbling act?

"...in the fear of Christ" Since it is our desire to fearfully worship our Lord and Savior, we will follow His example of humility as an act of true worship.

Please turn in your Bible to Philippians 2:5-8 and we will close with the greatest act of humility ever known to mankind. Read passage.

## **EXTRICATE**

\*\* What kind of character traits will be needed for us to obey the one another commands we have learned together today?

Humility, long suffering, joyfulness, thanksgiving.

## **DELINEATE**

\*\* What were the one another commands for this morning's part two study?

1. care for one another 2. serve 3. bear burdens  
4. forbearance 5. be kind 6. speak 7. be subject

## **EVALUATE**

\*\* Every time we have the opportunity to study God's Word together, we try to evaluate what the study has meant to us or how we measure up to the standard of the Word of God. While we will do that today, let me first ask you to evaluate how our last study changed your daily walk with the Lord.

Did you find yourself more aware of attitudes and actions which let the Lord down and cause Him grief?

Did you find yourself treating others in ways that honor God's Word, specifically in those areas that we had studied last time?

\*\* Alright then, with that in mind...ask yourself this question. Am I the caring, serving, supportive, patient, kind, tenderhearted, forgiving, soft spoken person that the Lord wants me to be, always willing to be in subjection to my brother or sister in Christ?

### **ACTIVATE**

\*\* In order for my life to truly change for the glory of God, I am going to have to be mindful of these very important areas of His instruction. Lord help me to honestly apply what you have shown me today!

Closing Prayer