

Simple Exhortations Pt 2: We Need One Another! The "One Another's" of the New Testament

September 30, 2018

Last week, we were reminded of God's overwhelming love for us. In fact, we said it this way:

God loves you. IF you are His, He has forgiven you. Therefore despise not the chastening of the LORD and fear NOT the keeping of His Commandments. His ways are best, and in Him your future has great purpose!

This week, let us be reminded that we truly do need each other:

God in His great love, has placed us in a covenant community called the Church. You are not alone! May our love be genuine one to another, and may that love drive out loneliness, despair, bitterness, pride, and unforgiveness. May we love each other with brotherly affection, outdoing one another in showing honor.

THOUGHTS:

- We live in a individualistic culture. Relationships are too often circumstantial not covenantal. In other words, people are together as long as needs are being met. Such relationships are easily broken when "something or someone better" comes along.
- From the time of our LORD's journey on this earth and the establishment of the LORD's church, this was not so!
- Let's us breathe in God's Word today concerning a great truth: We are a Body, and we need each other!
- As we read, think about what life would be like if we'd obey these commands and exhortations!

The "One Another's" of the New Testament

OUR LORD COMMANDS COMMUNITY LOVE

- **Joh 13:34-35 (KJV)** A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another**; as I have loved you, that ye also **love one another**. 35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have **love one to another**.
- Joh 15:10-12 (KJV) If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto

you, that my joy might remain in you, and *that* your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

THE COMMUNITY OBEYS!

- Act 2:1-4 (KJV) And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- Act 2:42-47 (KJV) And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. 44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

THE CHURCH IS CONSTANTLY EXHORTED!

- Rom 12:9-18 (ESV) Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
- Rom 13:8-10 (KJV) Owe no man any thing, <u>but to love one another</u>: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**. 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.
- 1Co 12:22-27 (ESV) On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our

more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

- **Gal 5:13-15 (KJV)** For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, **but by love serve one another**. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 15 **But if ye bite and devour one** another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.
- Gal 6:1-2 (KJV) Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.
- Eph 4:1-6 (KJV) I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- Eph 4:29-32 (KJV) Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.
- Col 3:12-17 (KJV) Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.
- **Heb 3:12-13 (KJV)** Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 **But exhort one another <u>daily</u>**, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

- Heb 10:24-25 (KJV) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
- Jas 5:13-16 (KJV) Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. 14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: 15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. 16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
- 1Pe 4:8-11 (KJV) And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. 9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging. 10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
- 1Jn 4:7-11 (KJV) Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

APPLICATIONS & QUESTIONS:

- 1. Did our readings today give you a sense of how close the community of faith is supposed to be?
- 2. Is your family truly connected in this kind of local community? If not, change it! Please!:)
- 3. Have you taught your children the beauty of such "one anothering?"
- 4. Consider the "divide and conquer" plan of the devil. (Matt 12:25-30) What are you willing to do to see his hellish plan thwarted? Forgive? Serve? Pray? All the above!
- 5. Would your family pray that our love "one to another" would increase?