

Relationships - Built for "One Another"

Relationships with friends, within marriages, between parents and children, in society and within our church should be characterised by support of one another. One of the clearest ways that Scripture reveals a portrait of how God intends for us to relate to each other is through the simple phrase "*one another*." Careful examination of the various Biblical passages that contain this phrase reveal many truths that can be applied to our dealings with others and can assist us in building successful, satisfying, God-glorifying relationships.

1. Godly relationships are centred on mutual interactions that build people up.

The Greek word that is translated *one another* is a reciprocal pronoun – which means that both parties will experience the action being done. If the action is positive (love, support, comfort), *both parties will benefit*. And in the case of negative actions (speaking evil, grumbling), *both parties lose*.

Which of these could you improve within your church involvement?

- Be devoted to one another; honour others above yourself* (Romans 12:10)
- Make every effort for peace and the building up of one another* (Romans 14:19)
- Instruct one another* (Romans 15:14)
- Have equal concern for one another* (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- Serve one another in love* (Galatians 5:13)
- Submit to one another* (Ephesians 5:21)
- Consider one another as better than yourself* (Philippians 2:3)
- Live in harmony with one another, being sympathetic and humble* (1 Peter 3:8)
- Offer hospitality to one another* (1 Peter 4:9)

2. Godly relationships should be built on helping each other. If you actively practise the following with "one another" someone will always be helped.

Which of the following could you build into your character more fully?

- Encourage one another toward love and good deeds* (Hebrews 10:24)
- Love one another for love comes from God* (1 John 4:7, 4:11, 3:11, 3:23)
- Carry one another's burdens* (Galatians 6:2)
- Bear with one another in love, being humble, gentle, and patient* (Ephesians 4:2)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another* (Ephesians 4:32)
- Accept one another* (Romans 15:7)
- Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another* (James 5:16)

3. Godly relationships include being careful not to treat each other in certain ways. If you go against these with "one another" someone inevitably gets hurt.

Which of these do you need to watch out for, especially when in stress?

- Don't judge one another* (Romans 14:13)
- Don't grumble against one another* (James 5:9)
- Don't slander one another* (James 4:11)
- Don't lie to one another* (Colossians 3:9)
- Don't provoke or envy one another* (Galatians 5:26)
- Don't bite and devour one another* (Galatians 5:15)

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Essentials

1. To _____ means we _____ each other.

Encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. Hebrews 3:13

²⁵*All this I have spoken while still with you.* ²⁶*But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.* John 14:25-26

2. To _____ we need others to _____ us when overloaded.

²*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ...⁵each one should carry their own load.* Galatians 6:2,5

3. To _____ requires proper _____.

¹⁶*All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,* ¹⁷*so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.* 2 Timothy 3:16-17

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Romans 15:4

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Please pass along my prayer/praise but without my name

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On the:

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