

Our ministry to each other

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I will build my church;** and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- The word church means assembly
- The one another ministry shows us that we need each other
- Church was never meant to be a spectator sport
- It was never about coming to watch a show or even listen to a sermon
- The church is about doing life together

1. We are to love other very much [Romans 12:10](#) Be **kindly affectioned one to another** with **brotherly love;** in honour preferring **one another;**

- a. There are approximately 59 one another's in the Scriptures and 21 speak of our loving each other
 - i. Love is evidently the most important thing we will do with each other
 - ii. So in our community of brothers we need to learn how to love each other
- b. Kindly affectioned means to be very loving
 - i. It is the idea of being devoted to your family
 - ii. It is the natural love that one in family has for another in his or her family
 - iii. It is being super loyal to each other
- c. It is the love brothers have for each other
- d. We show that love by preferring the other person

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectioned **one to**

another with brotherly love; **in honour**
preferring one another;

- i. Giving the other person the advantage over myself
- ii. Letting the other person come first

- iii. It means to quickly recognize the worth of the other person
- iv. The story of **Mordecai and Haman** [Esther 6:7](#) **And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,** ⁸ Let the **royal apparel** be brought which the king useth to wear, and **the horse that the king rideth upon,** and **the crown royal** which is set upon his head: ⁹ And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of **the king's most noble princes,** that they may array the man withal whom **the king delighteth to honour,** and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

2. We love our brothers and sisters in Christ like Christ has loved us **John 13:34** 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.**

i. He loved us first

1. Don't wait on them to come to you. Don't be hesitant!
2. Show your love first
3. Take the initiative

ii. He seeks what is best for us

1. How can I be a blessing to this other person
2. What can I do that will

iii. He doesn't hold our past against us

iv. He forgives us completely

b. Let your love be genuine **Romans 12:9** Let love be without **dissimulation**. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

c. The word dissimulation means, not faking it

I Corinthians 13:4 Charity **suffereth long**, and is

kind; charity **envieth not**; charity **vaunteth**

not itself, is **not puffed up**, ⁵ Doth not

behave itself unseemly, **seeketh not**

her own, is **not easily provoked**,

thinketh no evil ⁶ **Rejoiceth not in**

iniquity, **but rejoiceth in the truth**; **7**

Beareth all things, **believeth all**

things, **hopeth all things**, **endureth all**

things.

i. Real love is patient. Love expands your capacity to put up with difficult people and desperate situations. **Charity suffereth long**,

ii. Real love is generous **is kind**; **charity envieth not**;

1. Generous speaks of being kind
2. It is bringing pleasure to those
3. Growing in love frees you from envy and jealousy

iii. Real love is humble **charity vaunteth not**

itself, is not puffed up, seeketh not her own,

1. Humility means you are not a wind bag, you are not constantly talking about you
2. Real love doesn't have to get its own way
3. Humility is showing genuine interest in others
4. Love frees us from worrying about ourselves

iv. Love is not rude **Doth not behave itself unseemly,**

1. Say the nice words

- a. Please
- b. Thank you
- c. I am sorry

2. Listen, really, intently

3. Not being rude means not saying some things

- a. Don't highlight faults and weaknesses
- b. Think the best of them
- c. Real love covers a multitude of sins

v. Love thinks right **is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil**

1. Love is not irritable, touchy, easily offended or upset

2. The older brother in the story of the **prodigal**

son had a cold heart

3. He did right, his duty, was loyal, hardworking

4. But got angry when his brother was loved and honored

5. Love has selective memory, it only remembers the good

vi. Love rejoices in the truth **Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;**

1. You don't get joy out of saying your not as bad as another

2. Your heart and goal is to please Christ, truth

vii. Love keeps on, doesn't stop **Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.**

3. By not causing our brother to fail **Romans 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another** any more: but

judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

- a. Be careful not to judge your brother or sister
 - i. That means that we are not to pass judgment on our brother
 - ii. When you are judging out of jealousy, bitterness, etc then that is wrong
 - iii. You are judging wrong when you assume that you know all of the information, including motives
 - iv. You judge wrong when you judge by human standards or opinions instead of what the Word of God says, preferences
 - v. You judge wrongly when you do not first judge yourself and get the **beam out of your own eye**
- b. Instead of judging my brother I will judge myself and what I am doing
- c. Is what I am doing likely to cause him to stumble
- d. I am to be thinking of what will help my brother more than what will help me
- e. I want to examine my life and see if what I am doing will help my brother succeed or will it hinder his spiritual life

4. We are to accept each other [Romans 15:7](#) **Wherefore receive ye **one another,**** as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

- a. We accept each other like Christ has accepted us
- b. He loves me where I am right now
- c. There is nothing that I can do to make Him love me more and nothing that I can do to make Him love me less
- d. He accepts us unconditionally
- e. He accepts us based on what Jesus did for us instead of what we have done
- f. We should accept each other no matter what our past looks like
- g. We should accept each other in spite of our differences
- h. We should fully receive each other so that the world has to think of us as being loving, kind, and accepting of each other
- i. Accepting means without any desire to manipulate or change me

5. We are to serve each other [Galatians 5 13](#) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but **by love serve One another.**

- a. We can serve by making others feel welcome, a smile, holding the door, helping them find a seat
- b. We can serve by helping others achieve their goals
- c. We can serve others by helping them in their spiritual growth, foundations
- d. We can serve others by listening to them
- e. We can serve others by complimenting them, encouraging them in their ministry and life
- f. We can serve others by being a friend even if they do not deserve it
- g. We can serve others by sharing
- h. We can serve others by accepting them and not judging them
- i. We serve others by being grateful

6. We are to forgive each other [Ephesians 4 32](#) And **be ye**

kind one to another, tenderhearted,

forgiving one another, even as God for

Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

- a. When you forgive you let the offender off the hook.
- b. Forgiving means that I leave God to take care of justice
- c. Forgiving is deciding to not think about the offense and not to bring it up again
- d. Forgiveness is not based on what the other person does

Jesus asked His Father to forgive

those that were crucifying Him

- e. Forgiving means I give up my desire to control the situation
- f. Forgiving is a decision. I decide to let go of the resentment
- g. Forgiving means I give my emotions to the Lord and trust Him with me, the offense, and the other person

7. We are to encourage and motivate each other

Hebrews 10:24 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.

- a. Let's think about how to stir each other up to love more
- b. Let's see how we can encourage each other to do more good works
- c. Let's get together, assemble
- d. Let's meet with a purpose
 - i. We are going to worship God
 - ii. We are going to learn the Bible
 - iii. We are going to magnify Jesus
 - iv. But we are also going to encourage each other
 - v. We are going to help each other do more for God than we would ever have done alone