



Life Practices

Lesson #6 Investing in Relationship-Your Relationship with One Another

Introduction

Take a careful look at how the early church related to one another: It was NOT:

_____ : a society where all the property is publicly owned and each person works and is paid according to their ability and needs.

_____ : advocates the means of production, distribution and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.

But remember: The Bible clearly teaches that each man (or woman) must work (II Thess.3:10).

Acts 2:42-47

Vs. 45: "Selling their possessions..." These are imperfect Greek verbs. It is the idea of a one-time thing, not a recurring action that continues to reverberate. They did so as a need arose.

Acts 4:32-35

Vs. 32: "No one claimed that his possessions were his own" See I Chronicles 29:12, Deut. 8:18 and I Cor. 6:19-20

Vs. 34: "From time to time..." they sold things and brought in the proceeds. See II Cor. 9:7-8. God loves a _____ giver.

The biblical goal is _____. Consider It is not good _____ (Gen. 2:18-24). As each part does its work: _____ (Eph. 4:16). And, _____, I am strong (II Cor. 12:9).

The term "One Another" (ALLELON)

It is a single Greek word that is used 100 times in the NT. Paul loves that term.

It is a _____ for _____ NT relationships.

"*Allelon* is not a _____. It's not a specific "something" that we are told to do. It is *who* we are told to do many things to, for and with" (Judith Folkerts). In the NT, we are told over and over again to _____ on one another.

The word *allelon* also means *each other, mutually or reciprocally*. It is conveying our mutual _____ with each other.



There are 59 separate ONE ANOTHERS in the New Testament that are expressed in 35 instructions:

1. *"...Be at peace with each other."* ([Mark 9:50](#))
2. *"...Wash one another's feet."* ([John 13:14](#))
3. *"...Love one another..."* ([John 13:34](#), 35, [15:12](#), 1; [Rom. 13:8](#); [I Thess. 3:12](#), [4:9](#); [I Peter 3:8](#), [4:8](#); [I John 3:11](#), 23, [4:7](#), 11, 12; [II John 5](#))
4. *"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love..."* ([Romans 12:10](#))
5. *"...Honor one another above yourselves."* ([Romans 12:10](#))
6. *"Live in harmony with one another..."* ([Romans 12:16](#))
7. *"...Stop passing judgment on one another."* ([Romans 14:13](#))
8. *"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you..."* ([Romans 15:7](#))
9. *"...Instruct one another."* ([Romans 15:14](#))
10. *"Greet one another with a holy kiss..."* ([Romans 16:16](#) [I cor. 16:20](#), [13:12](#); [I Peter 5:14](#))
11. *"...When you come together to eat, wait for each other."* ([I Cor. 11:33](#))
12. *"...Have equal concern for each other."* ([I Corinthians 12:25](#))
13. *"...Serve one another in love."* ([Galatians 5:13](#))
14. *"If you keep on biting and devouring each other...you will be destroyed by each other."* ([Galatians 5:15](#))
15. *"Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other."* ([Galatians 5:26](#))
16. *"Carry each other's burdens..."* ([Galatians 6:2](#))
17. *"...Be patient, bearing with one another in love."* ([Ephesians 4:2](#)) 2. *"Be kind and compassionate to one another..."* ([Ephesians 4:32](#))
18. *"...Forgiving each other..."* ([Ephesians 4:32](#) and [Col. 3:13](#))
19. *"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs."* ([Ephesians 5:19](#))



20. *“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”* ([Ephesians 5:21](#))
21. *“...In humility consider others better than yourselves.”* ([Philippians 2:3](#))
22. *“Do not lie to each other...”* ([Colossians 3:9](#))
23. *“Bear with each other...”* ([Colossians 3:13](#))
24. *“Teach...[one another]”* ([Colossians 3:16](#))
25. *“...Admonish one another* ([Colossians 3:16](#))
26. *“...Encourage each other...”* ([I Thessalonians 4:18](#), [5:11](#), [Heb. 3:13](#), [10:25](#))
27. *“...Build each other up...”* ([I Thessalonians 5:11](#))
28. *“...Spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”* ([Hebrews 10:24](#))
29. *“...Do not slander one another.”* ([James 4:11](#))
30. *“Don’t grumble against each other...”* ([James 5:9](#))
31. *“Confess your sins to each other...”* ([James 5:16](#))
32. *“...Pray for each other.”* ([James 5:16](#))
33. *“Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.”* ([I Peter 4:9](#))
- 34.. *“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others...”* ([I Peter 4:10](#))
- 35.. *“...Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another...”* ([I Peter 5:5](#))

The “One Others” fall into several major categories:

1. Unity in the church

About one third of the “one others” deal with unity in the church.

Two Biblical examples: Paul and Barnabas in Acts 15 36-39, II Tim. 4:11 and Euodia and Syntyche in Phil. 4:2.



Some Dos:

- a. Be at peace with one another _____
- b. Be of the same mind _____
- c. Accept one another _____
- d. Tolerate one another _____
- e. Be kind, tenderhearted _____
- f. Forgive one another _____
- g. Confess your sins one to another _____

Some DON'TS:

- a. Don't grumble among yourselves _____
- b. Don't bite or devour each other _____
- c. Don't challenge or envy one another _____
- d. Don't complain against one another _____

2. Loving one another

Biblical example: John the Baptist's attitude: _____ (John 3:30)

Another third of the list deals with our love for one another.

Serve (____), tolerate (____), be devoted to one another (____), and greet each other with affection (____). Husbands and wives, don't deprive one another of physical intimacy (____).

3. Showing humility and deference to one another

Give preference to one another (____). Regard others as more important than yourself (____). Be subject to each other (____). Wash each other's feet (____). Clothe yourself in humility (____). And be of the same mind (____).



4. Relationships in the church:

“There shouldn’t be many one-person selfies in the body of Christ.”

Biblical example: Edification (see I Thess. 5:11)

Some Don’ts

Don’t put a stumbling block in a brother’s way (____). Don’t lie to one another (____)

Some Dos:

Speak truth to each other (____). Comfort one another (____). Stimulate each other to love and good deeds (____). Be hospitable (____). Encourage one another (____). Bear each other’s burdens (____). Pray for one another (____).

For the Over Achiever

1. Memorize Rom. 12:10
2. Use the list above as a kind of “check off list.” Which ones get most of your attention? What should you be working on?

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