

May 6, 2012

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Selected Scriptures

“Bridge Builders’ Sunday: **One Another**”

## I. “The One Anothers”

### A. Defined

1. **Webster’s**: each to others; each of several members of a group to the others; neighbors helping one another
2. **Bible**: reciprocal; each other; one another; reciprocation between two persons or groups

**B. Delineated** (John 13:14, 34–35; 15:12, 17; Acts 7:26; 21:6; Rom. 1:12; 12:5, 10, 16; 13:8; 14:13, 19; 15:5, 7, 14, 27; 16:16; 1 Cor. 7:5; 9:11, 11:33; 12:25; Gal. 5:13, 15, 26; 6:2, 6; Eph. 4:2, 25, 32; 5:21; Phil. 2:3; Col. 3:9, 13; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:9, 18; 5:11, 15; 2 Thess. 1:3; Tit. 3:3; Heb. 10:24; Jas. 4:11; 5:9, 16; 1 Pet. 1:22; 4:9; 5:5; 1 John. 3:11)

### 1. Negative Commands (“Put off”)

- a. Do not **judge** one another (Rom. 14:13)
- b. Do not have **lawsuits** with one another (1 Cor. 6:7)
- c. Do not **bite** and **devour** one another (Gal. 5:15)
- d. Do not **challenge** and **envy** one another (Gal. 5:26)
- e. Do not **speak evil** or **complain against** one another (James 4:11; 5:9)
- f. Do not **seek glory** from one another (John 5:44)
- g. Stop **depriving** one another (1 Cor. 7:5 – for married couples)

### 2. Positive Commands (“Put on”)

- a. **Focus on attitudes**: Have the **same mind toward (with)** one another (Rom. 12:16; 15:5; 1 Pet. 3:8; Acts 1:14; 2:46; 4:24; 5:12)
- b. **Promoting spiritual growth and health in the Body of Christ**
  - 1) **Encourage (exhort)** and **build up** one another (1 Thess. 5:11; Rom. 14:19; 15:2; 1 Cor. 14:12, 26; Eph. 4:29; Col. 2:2; Titus 1:9; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Thess. 2:11-13; Rom. 15:4-5; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 2:1-17)
  - 2) **Admonish** one another (Rom. 15:14; 1 Thess. 5:14; Col. 1:28; 3:16; Gal. 6:1-5)
  - 3) **Comfort** and **encourage** one another (1 Thess. 4:18; 5:11; Heb. 3:13; 10:24-25)
  - 4) **Assemble together** with one another (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 10:25)
  - 5) **Bear** one another’s **burdens** (Gal. 6:2)
- c. **Promoting the good of the Body of Christ**
  - 1) **Seek after** that which is **good** for one another (1 Thess. 5:15; Eph. 4:29)
  - 2) Be **honest** with one another (Col. 3:9)
  - 3) Show **hospitality** to one another (1 Pet. 4:9; Heb. 13:1-3)
  - 4) **Greet** one another with a **holy kiss** (Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor. 13:12; 1 Pet. 5:14)
- d. **Promoting unity and peace in the Body of Christ**
  - 1) Be at **peace** with one another (Mk. 9:50; 1 Thess. 5:13)
  - 2) Be **devoted** to one another in **brotherly love** (Rom. 12:10)
  - 3) Give **preference** to one another in **honor** (Rom. 12:10; Phil. 2:3-4)
  - 4) Clothe yourselves with **humility** toward one another (1 Pet. 5:5)
  - 5) **Be subject** to one another in the fear of Christ (Eph. 5:21)

- 6) **Show forbearance** toward one another (Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:13)
- 7) **Accept** one another (Rom. 15:7 cf. Rom. 14:5-6, 21)
- 8) **Be kind** to one another, **tenderhearted, forgiving** one another (Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13)
- 9) **Wait** for one another (1 Cor. 11:33)

**e. Promoting ministry and the function of the Body of Christ**

- 1) **Serve** one another (Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10)
- 2) Live and work as **members** of one another (Rom. 12:4-8; Eph. 4:25)

**C. Summarized: Love one another** (John 13:34-35; 15:12, 17; Gal. 5:13-14; 1 Thess. 3:12; 1 Pet. 1:22; 4:8)

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Does God love the Church? Does He love local churches? Does He love our church? How much does He love our church? How do you know? How did (does) He demonstrate it? Do you love the church? How are you demonstrating it?
2. Which of the “one anothers” are the easiest for you to do? Why? Give some examples of how you have done them recently and the impact it had on others.
3. Which of the “one anothers” are the most difficult for you to do? Why? Does the fact that it is difficult give you a legitimate excuse for not doing it? How will you grow in your ability to be obedient to those specific commands?
4. We are commanded to serve one another. According to 1 Peter 4:10-11 you are uniquely gifted (“special gift,” “manifold grace of God”). What spiritual gift(s) do you have? How have you employed it (them) in the past? How are you currently using it (them) to build up the church (Eph. 4:11ff)? What plans do you have to develop and use your gift(s) more effectively in the coming year?
5. What does it mean to be a “steward?” As a believer in Jesus Christ, what has God entrusted to you (beyond spiritual gifts)? What does He want you to do with what He has entrusted to you? Be specific: 1) Time; 2) Talents; 3) Treasures; 4) Temple (your body); 5) The Gospel.
6. What will it cost you to be more effective as a steward this coming year? Be specific: what will you need to say “no” to so you can say “yes” to God? Are you willing to pay that price? If so, tell your group the specific things you will do this coming week (month, year) to become more effective as a steward of what God has entrusted to you.