

"One Anothers" of Scripture

On our Journey of Lifetime as we follow Jesus, we need each other. All of us long for life-giving relationships. That's how God designed us, and that's why Jesus invites us to feed our souls through community. So, how do we live in community with one another?

"One another" is two words in English, but it's only one word in Greek: άλλήλων (ah-LAY-loan). It's used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses, indicating its importance to the early church. Included below are 36 verses about flourishing with one another. We encourage you to read and pray daily over these topics. As you study these verses, a few more common themes show up:

UNITY

One third of the "one another" commands deal with the unity of the church.

- 1. Be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50)
- 2. Don't grumble among one another (John 6:43)
- 3. Be of the same mind with one another (Romans 12:16; 15:5)
- 4. Accept one another (Romans 15:7)
- 5. Wait for one another before beginning the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:33)
- 6. Don't bite, devour, and consume one another (Galatians 5:15)
- 7. Don't boastfully challenge or envy one another (Galatians 5:26).
- 8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another (Ephesians 4:2)
- 9. Be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
- 10. Bear with and forgive one another (Colossians 3:13)
- 11. Seek good for one another, and don't repay evil for evil (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
- 12. Don't complain against one another (James 4:11; 5:9)
- 13. Confess sins to one another (James 5:16)

LOVE

One third of the commands instruct Christians to love one another.

- 1. Love one another (John 13:34; 15:12, 17; Romans 13:8; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11; 4:7, 11; 2 John 5)
- 2. Through love, serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
- 3. Tolerate one another in love (Ephesians 4:2)
- 4. Greet one another with a kiss of love (1 Peter 5:14)
- 5. Be devoted to one another in love (Romans 12:10)

HUMILITY

About 15% of the commands stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.

- 1. Give preference to one another in honor (Romans 12:10)
- 2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves (Philippians 2:3)
- 3. Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
- 4. Wash one another's feet (John 13:14)
- 5. Don't be haughty; be of the same mind (Romans 12:16)
- 6. Be subject to one another (Ephesians 5:21)
- 7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another (1 Peter 5:5)

THE REST

- 1. Don't judge one another, and don't put a stumbling block in a brother's way (Romans 14:13)
- 2. Greet one another with a kiss (Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12)
- 3. Husbands and wives: don't deprive one another of physical intimacy (1 Corinthians 7:5)
- 4. Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- 5. Speak truth to one another (Ephesians 4:25)
- 6. Don't lie to one another (Colossians 3:9)
- 7. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- 8. Encourage and build up one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- 9. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)
- 10. Pray for one another (James 5:16)
- 11. Be hospitable to one another (1 Peter 4:9)