

THE REVOLUTIONARY DISCIPLE

One Another Passages

A Stand-Alone Study to Foster Your Commitment to the Church



ONE ANOTHER PASSAGES

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This study can be completed with a group or on your own.

Why do some churches feel disjointed? While various reasons exist for disunity in a church, it often has to do with the church's lack of commitment to one another. In Chapter 9 of *The Revolutionary Disciple*, "Embracing God's Church," we mentioned that one of the most revolutionary acts a disciple can do is commit to a particular church—over the long haul.

This sort of commitment stems from a conviction that comes from understanding the heart of God about how we treat "one another." The Greek New Testament mentions the word that we translate "one another" (ESV) one hundred times: a total of forty-four of these are commands, which appear in thirty-six passages.

The following thirty-six passages, then, contain these forty-four "one another" commands that can help us understand God's heart and foster commitment to one another as disciples of Jesus. Read through these passages from the English Standard Version aloud and consider how these commands require our commitment to one another in order to obey. Then answer the questions below.

- 1. Rom. 12:10: Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.
- 2. Rom. 12:16: Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.
- 3. Rom. 14:13: Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.
- 4. Rom. 15:5: May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,
- 5. Rom. 15:7: Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
- 6. Rom. 16:16: Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.
- 7. 1 Cor. 6:7: To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded?
- 8. 1 Cor. 11:33: So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.
- 9. 1 Cor. 12:25: That there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.
- 10. 1 Cor. 16:20: All the brothers send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.
- 11. Gal. 5:13: For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
- 12. Gal. 5:26: Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.
- 13. Eph. 4:2: With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.



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- 14. Eph. 4:32: Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
- 15. Eph. 5:19: Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart.
- 16. Eph. 5:21: Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.
- 17. Col. 3:9: Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.
- 18. Col. 3:13: Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- 19. Col. 3:16: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
- 20.1 Thess. 4:18: Therefore encourage one another with these words.
- 21. 1 Thess. 5:11: Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
- 22.1 Thess. 5:15: See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.
- 23. Heb. 3:13: But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
- 24. Heb. 10:24–25: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- 25. James 4:11: Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.
- 26. James 5:9: Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.
- 27. James 5:16: Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.
- 28.1 Pet. 1:22: Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart.
- 29. 1 Pet. 4:8–10 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.
- 30.1 Pet. 5:5: Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."
- 31. 1 Pet. 5:14: Greet one another with the kiss of love.
- 32.1 John 3:11: For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.



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- 33. 1 John 3:23: And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
- 34.1 John 4:7: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
- 35. 1 John 4:11–12: Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.
- 36.2 John 5: And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another.

QUESTIONS

How do the commands in these Scripture passages require commitment to specific people at a particular church?

Which of these commands do you do well?

Which of these commands have you neglected?

Have you truly committed to being a part of a particular church? If not, what's stopping you?

If you're committed to a particular church, how are your relationships with people in your church?

In what ways might God be calling you into further commitment to "one another"?

