

GROW IN GRACE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 44b, No. 2, January 15, 2019 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Savior JESUS CHRIST. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen."***

LOVE! — How Jesus Christ is 'Made *VISIBLE*' in Gallatin!

LAST WEEK: Proverbs 29:18: "Where there is no vision, the people perish [*CAST OFF RESTRAINT*]; // AMP - ***Where there is no redemptive revelation of God, the people perish. IN OTHERWORDS,***

"Where there is, 1. NO VISION OF GOD HIMSELF; 2. NO VISION OF accountability at the Judgment Seat of Christ;

3. NO VISION OF HELL; 4. NO heart for LOST SOULS; 5. No congregational Prayer;

6. Where there is NO VISION of Heaven or of SEEING JESUS face to face— people perish!

THIS WEEK, ALONG a similar LINE OF BIBLICAL REVELATION—

7. WHERE THERE IS NO VISION of and PASSION for

BEING GIVERS OF GOD'S LOVE— people perish!

GALATIANS 5:13-15:“You, my brothers, were called to be free but do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; Rather, **serve one another in love!**” If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be **destroyed by each other.**” (Gal. 5:13-15)

WE MUST be GIVERS of God’s love or else, people perish!

CHRISTIAN: You are God's holy temple! He lives in you that He might live through you! When His indwelling Holy Spirit is un-grieved and un-quenched— there will be AMAZING MIRACLES OF GOD’S LOVE flowing in and among all your/OUR human relationships— because THE LOVE OF GOD HAS FLOODED YOUR SOUL by the Holy Spirit! (Romans 5:5)

And these AMAZING MIRACLES OF GOD’S LOVE are not dependent upon circumstances or other people. **Let all saints be clay in the Master's hands. Let us sit at His feet. Let us go forth yielded, obeying HIS VOICE:**

The ONE-ANOTHERS FOR EVERY CHRISTIAN— but ESPECIALLY FOR ME.... And for YOU!

The following list of Bible passages REMIND us of how much emphasis the Scripture places on our opportunity, privilege, and obligation as Christians to love and care for one another:

1. Accept one another- Accept one another, then, **just as** Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ([Rom. 15:7](#))

2. Admonish one another- Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. ([Col. 3:16](#))

3. Bear one another's burdens- Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ([Gal. 6:2](#))

4. Bear with one another- Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ([Eph. 4:2](#))

5. Build up one another- Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification (*original=build up one another*). ([Rom. 14:19](#))

6. Care for one another- . . . so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ([1 Cor. 12:25](#))

7. Comfort one another- Therefore encourage each other (*original=comfort one another*) with these words. ([1 Thess. 4:18](#))

8. Confess your own faults to one another- Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. ([James 5:16](#))

9. Be Devoted to one another- Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. ([Rom. 12:10a](#))

10. Encourage one another- Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. ([1 Thess. 5:11](#))

11. Fellowship with one another- But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another. ([1 Jn. 1:7](#))

12. Forgive one another- Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. ([Eph. 4:32](#))

13. Greet one another- Greet one another with a holy kiss. ([Rom. 16:16](#))

14. Be Honest with one another- Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices . . . ([Col. 3:9](#))

15. Honor one another- Honor one another above yourselves. ([Rom. 12:10b](#))

16. Be Hospitable to one another- Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ([1 Pet. 4:9](#))

17. Be Kind to one another- Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. ([Eph. 4:32](#))

18. Love one another- Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another . . . ([Rom. 13:8](#))

19. We are Members one of another- So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ([Rom. 12:5](#))

20. Pray for one another- Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. ([James 5:16](#))

21. Be of the Same Mind with one another- May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves (*original=same mind among each other*) as you follow Christ Jesus . . . ([Rom. 15:5](#))

22. Submit to one another- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ([Eph. 5:21](#))

23. Serve one another- You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. ([Gal. 5:13](#))

24. Spur one another on- And let us consider how we may spur [stimulate] one another on toward love and good deeds. ([Heb. 10:24](#))

Christian! You are God's holy temple! He lives in you that He might live through you! **Let all saints be clay in the Master's hands. Let us sit at His feet. Let us go forth yielded, obeying HIS VOICE; and the ONE ANOTHERS will flow through us— Saints will be built up; the Gospel will be ADORNED in the presence of the lost; and GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED!**

Here are Biblical principles as to the application of the 'One Another' Commands in our daily lives!

1. Receiving Must Precede Giving! *"For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you"* (1 Cor. 11:23).

We simply cannot give what we have not received. A DISTINGUISHING MARK OF A CHRISTIAN is the EMBRACING and CARRYING OUT the 'One Others' in a local church and in their family! REALITY: Only those who have received the LORD JESUS CHRIST will walk in His steps! (Colossians 2:6-7: As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.)

2. We Are To Give The One Others Freely/Generously! *"Freely you have received, freely give"* (Matthew 10:8). Paul told Timothy, "The grace of our Lord was poured out on me

abundantly" (1 Timothy 1:14). The apostle John wrote, "**How great is the love the Father has lavished on us!**" (1 John 3:1). We should never give with the expectation of a pay back or with a required condition. We never pay for what we receive from God. So, let us give freely. God is not stingy, and neither should we be.

3. We Are To Give The One Anothers Indiscriminately! *"My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism"* (James 2:1). **INDEED, some people are more difficult to love than others, but such challenges must be received as the "test" of whether or not we truly love as Christ loved us! JESUS CLEARLY EXHORTS:** *"Love your enemies. . . If you love those who love you, what do ye more than others. . .do not even pagans do that?"* (Matt. 5:43-47)

4. We Are To Relate To One Another As God Has Related To (Loved) Us! *"As I have loved you, so you must love one another"* (John 13:34).

JESUS SIMPLY TEACHES, *"Do to others as I have done to you."* *"Forgive even as GOD for Christ's sake has forgiven us!"* (Eph. 4:28ff)

5. IMPORTANT QUESTION: How Did/Does Jesus Train His Disciples in the One Anothers? He called them just to **"be with him"** (Mark 3:14). The disciples heard Jesus teach and they observed Him as He demonstrated THE FATHER'S HEART OF LOVE! **For thirty-six months**, day after day, the disciples witnessed Him ministering the 'one others' to other people; and they experienced firsthand His ministry of the 'one others' to them as individuals. **AND THEN... JUST HOURS BEFORE CALVARY... Just hours before his death, Jesus said,** **"Love one another as I have loved you."** (John 13:34-35)

What a powerful revival will take place in Bible-believing homes and churches when we manifest THE LOVE OF JESUS one to another as Jesus does for us!

IN TRAGIC OPPOSITION TO GOD'S LOVE: Split homes and Split churches and/or individuals leaving their family or leaving a church are most often rooted in a THOUSAND THINGS which can be boiled down to this: ***"You did or said something I don't like or agree with and so, I'm OUT OF HERE!"***

And yet Jesus with those first disciples... and with EACH OF US, JESUS

HAS continually looked beyond imperfections, accepted US, and continued to love US deeply! FOR THOSE FIRST DISCIPLES... JESUS KEPT on doing sacrificial things so that they could become what they should become! And He does the same for us!

In commanding us to love others, God is not asking us to do something that He has not already done. He is not asking us to give to others anything that He has not already given to us. AND, WHEN WE ARE IN Christ our hearts have been FLOODED with love (Romans 5:5) by the Holy Spirit! Thus, we are DIVINELY EMPOWERED to love!

MOREOVER, CONSIDER THIS: throughout the thirty-three years of Jesus' earthly life, JESUS was giving His disciples the same kind of love that He was constantly receiving from his Father: ***"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you"*** (John 15:9; John 3:16).

6. When We 'Give The One Anothers' — We Are Ministering To Christ!

"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them" (Hebrews 6:10).

WE ARE MINISTERING TO CHRIST — OR TREATING HIM BADLY — DEPENDING UPON HOW WE TREAT FELLOW CHRISTIANS!

To love one another is to love Christ, and to neglect or harm one another is to neglect or harm Christ (Acts 9:4). The way we treat a fellow member of the Body of Christ is the way we are treating Christ the Head of His Body!

7. The One Anothers are a MAJOR Key To Effective Evangelism

THESE 'ONE ANOTHERS' provide a platform for evangelism— In a high-tech, low-touch world, people take notice when a group of people exhibit such loving relationships. It helps to produce a yearning within them for the same. We are used by God to demonstrate Christ's love and grace in action! This EMPOWERS the verbal witness!

As we minister God's love to ONE ANOTHER in Christ and to others — some of the lost will be deeply touched and drawn to the source of so great a love: ***"All men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"*** (John 13:35).

Is it possible that people can recognize our Christianity not by what we say, but by how we love?

Is it possible that they might be more receptive to the claims of Christ after they have experienced firsthand the love of Christ?

This is the strategy that Peter gives to wives who have unbelieving husbands: *"Wives, in the same way be submissive*

to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives" (1 Peter 3:1).

WHERE THERE IS NO VISION of and PASSION for BEING GIVERS OF LOVE... people perish!

GALATIANS 5:13-15: "You, my brothers, were called to be free but do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; Rather, serve one another in love!" (Gal. 5:13 & 14)

1 John 4:7-8

***"Beloved, let us love one another:
for love is of God;
and every one that loveth
is born of God, and knoweth God.
He that loveth not
knoweth not God; for God is love!"***

[Over many years, we have taught, preached, and written about the ONE ANOTHERS. Very helpful resources have been books by Gene Getz: Build Up One Another, Serve One Another, Love one another; and the two volume set by Don McMinn, The Eleventh Commandment]

Grace to one and all! James Bell

SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:

MONDAYS: Jail Ministry— (This ministry is ON HOLD... PRAY FOR opening of doors!)

TUESDAYS: Come and sing every Tuesday night at Gallatin Health Care Nursing Home. Meet at the front door at **5:15PM.**

WEDNESDAYS: → 6:30pm— Children Ministry/activities;

→ 6:30pm— **Youth** Activities and Bible Study—

→ **6:30pm— Wednesday CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE...** (Enter via IRON STEPS; or double doors by gym)

***** LADIES BIBLE STUDY— Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, JANUARY 22, 2019 @ 11:00am; Continuing in LUKE.** ENTER at the back of the church building, [*Doors open at 10:30am... re-locked at 11:10am*]

***** MEN: EVERY SATURDAY @ 8:00am:** Men's Fellowship/Bible Study! (**STUDY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN!**) ENTER AT THE back of Church building... under the drive-thru awning. [**DOORS OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIP, Juice, coffee, Hardee's biscuits & Donuts at 7:30am!**]

SHARE the Preaching of the Word of God!

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SUNDAY SERVICES: January 20, 27

10:45am— Sunday MORNING WORSHIP service

SPECIAL NOTES FOR VARIOUS SUNDAYS:

1. January 20— at the close of the regular Morning Worship; we enter into the SACRED TIME OF WORSHIP at the LORD'S TABLE.

***** Sunday Evening HOME GROUPS**

2. January 27, at 6:00pm— Equipping Disciples... presently 'SHEPHERDING THE HEART OF A CHILD

