

## “ONE ANOTHER” (2)

We are told to “honor” each other. That is, we are to esteem each other as fellow Christians in the Kingdom, spiritually equal with each other. And even more than this, as the term “preferring” implies, we are to view each other in a way that would put our brother and his needs before our own (Philippians 2:3). Brethren, if we do as the Lord commands, we are to die to self and cultivate and practice putting the Lord first. Part of doing this is to esteem our brethren as being better than ourselves. If each member of the church would do this, it would stop all of the fighting, fuming, and hating that take place between brethren.

Relationships! God intends that we have healthy and rewarding relationships with each other. Even further, He intends his children to be at peace with one another even if it means that each individual Christian forfeit his or her “rights” in favor of that peace and healthy relationship with other children of God (Ephesians 4:31-32). You and I, if we are what God wants us to be, *must* love the unlovely, be kind to the unkind, help those that will despise us for doing so and to pray for those that spitefully use us and persecute us (Matthew 5:10-12).

### “CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER”

“Let us therefore follow after the things that make for peace, and things wherewith ONE my edify ANOTHER”. “And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish ONE ANOTHER”. “For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve ONE ANOTHER.”

First, God commands that we edify one another. To edify means that we are to build one another up, we are to

promote spiritual growth in each other. To do this we must seek peace with one another. To have peace is to have harmonious relationships between each other. As Paul states in the context, we must “follow” after these things. That is, we are to pursue them with great diligence. It will take effort on our part.

Second, God commands us to admonish one another. To admonish means that we are to warn each other of things that are observed in each of our lives by the other. As the word implies, we are to point out wrongs with the view of correction and love and not out of the motivation of hatred or gladness to cause misery (Thayer). We are to be “full of goodness” when we admonish our fellow brethren. And, before we start admonishing our fellow Christian friend, we must make sure we have our motives correct and our own lives free of habitual sin (Matthew 7:1-5; Galatians 6:1; 1 Peter 3:15).

Third, God commands that we serve one another. The world and those who are willingly bound by its sinful attitudes, feel that they are here on this earth to be served. But, the Christian is here to serve others. The idea of “serve” in this passage has to do with a person who serves in the capacity of a slave (Thayer). The slave of the Lord Jesus Christ has chosen to do so willingly and not from the standpoint of dreadful bondage. You and I are to be full of joy that we are counted worthy to be bondservants of Christ. We are to take this same feeling that we have for Christ and apply it to the service rendered to our fellow Christians. This is what Jesus would do.

So, when we are tempted to become irritated and disgruntled about the way we are treated by some of our brethren and the world, let’s remember the Word of God and the example of the Lord (2 Corinthians 11:23ff; 1 Peter 2:21-23).

**Lee Davis from *The Reasoner***

## MY HEART GETS THERE FIRST

An elderly Christian lady, dreadfully crippled with rheumatism used to hobble to the services of the church on two sticks. It was a great ordeal and required of her considerable toil and pain. A friend of hers observed her regularly and asked, “How do you manage to be at every service?” Her answer was classic, “My heart gets there first, and my old legs just follow after.”

There is the key to faithfulness, not only in attendance at the worship assemblies, but in living a life worthy of the name “Christian.”

Jesus had taught men to seek “first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness” (Matthew 6:33). The greatest commandment is “Thou shall love the Lord they God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind” (Matthew 22:37). All acceptable service to God and His Son begins in the heart—a heart filled with love. A heart filled with the love of God and His Son will show itself in external actions. Jesus said, “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). We prove ourselves to be friends of Jesus by the way we let that heart filled with love cause us to act. “Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you” (John 15:14).

If Jesus truly is Lord in our hearts, our lives will be lived so that others will see Christ living in us and see the hope we have in our heart (1 Peter 3:15-16).

We have all heard the expression, “his heart is not in it.” I’m afraid that the Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, must be saying that about many people who profess to follow Him. Is your heart in your service to Christ? If so, you’ll be like the lady above—your heart gets there first and your legs naturally follow!

**Lindel Doty adapted**

**ANNIVERSARY**

Gary and Lynda Cole, 02-14.

**BIRTHDAY**

John James, 02-10.

**ILL**

**Sunday:** Jennifer Carter; John and Barbara James; Chelsea Nelson; Clara Scott; Millie Robertson (PM); Debbie Schleif (PM).

**Wednesday:** Jennifer Carter; Millie Robertson; Debbie Schleif; Linda Thomas.

Millie Robertson is to be scheduled for surgery. Clara Scott had knee surgery and was released to recover at home on Saturday. Tom Tucker is being treated for leg pain in Room 530 at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

**Those battling cancer:** Ledgia Campbell, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

**HOME BOUND**

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Barbara James' aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

**OUT OF TOWN**

Wilba Hopkins is in Neosho, MO visiting relatives this weekend. The Trent Thrasher family is in Owensville, MO visiting relatives this weekend. John and Debra Gragg are vacationing in Hawaii at this time.

**MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING**

Our monthly Men's Business Meeting will be held this Sunday, February 8, following our AM worship.

**MISSION WORK**

John Shafer has safely returned from India and reports 102 souls were added to the kingdom on this trip.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 45; Sunday PM, 31; Wednesday PM, 29.

**Those To Serve**

February 8, 2009

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Thrasher**

**MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Trent Thrasher**  
**SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... Jared Nelson**  
**PRESIDE..... Jeff Nemechek**  
**ASSIST..... John Cody Carter**  
**ASSIST..... Dave Parish**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... George Thomas**

**EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER ..... John Dodson**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... Jeff Nemechek**

**WEDNESDAY 11th**

**SONG LEADER..... John Cody Carter**  
**INVITATION ..... Steve Brown**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday**

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: olathecofc@sbcglobal.net**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

**www.kc-cofc.org/olathe.htm**

**www.oabs.org/olathe.asp**