

# The Measure Of His Church Walking In His Image!

Lesson 8: Measuring Our Commitment To Fellowship – part 2

Scripture: 1John 1:6-7

## I. Walking With One Another In Fellowship

- A. "Joined and knit together" Ephesians 4:16
- B. "Speaking the truth in love" Ephesians 4:15
- C. Our commitment to one another Romans 12:15-16
- D. We are "members of one another" Romans 12:4-5
- E. "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love" Romans 12:10 (Part 2)
- F. "In honor, giving preference to one another" Romans 12:10
  1. This one another injunction is an extension of the first part of verse 10.
    - a. How should family members function, especially within the household of God?  
b. see Philippians 2:1-4  
c. As humans in general, what do we focus on first?
  2. How should we think of our spiritual family that we are connected to?
  3. Do we have a biblical example of Christians giving preference to each other? see Acts 2:44-47
- G. "Be like-minded toward one another" Romans 15:5-6
  1. Context: Compare Romans 14:1 with 15:1-6
    - a. Many think this section (15:5-6) is a prayer.
    - b. When do believers (disciples of Christ) function the best within the body of Christ?  

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    - c. What will happen if Christian brethren combine Romans 12:10 and Romans 15:5-6 together in their relationship with each other?
  2. What happens when the members of our human body do not function properly?  

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  3. It is no accident that Paul's prayer for unity correlates with Jesus' prayer for His disciples – do you agree – Where did this teaching come from?
    - a. John 17:1-2, 6, 7-8, 14-17, 20-21
    - b. Acts 2:44-47
- H. "Therefore, receive one another" Romans 15:7
  1. Paul's prayer for unity is both culminating and transitional.
    - a. "therefore" vs.7
    - b. When will body unity really happen within the family of God? \_\_\_\_\_
  2. This statement by Paul in vs.7 is a powerful injunction.
    - a. Why? Was there a natural tension that existed among certain groups in the church?  

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    - b. This was a very common topic that Paul would discuss in his letters to brethren.
      - (1) Colossians 3:10-11
      - (2) Ephesians 2:11-13, 14-18, 19-22
      - (3) Galatians 3:26-29
    - c. In spite of their cultural differences, did the church of Jesus Christ multiply?
  3. We are all sinners saved by the grace of God, and we all belong to the same spiritual family.
    - a. James 2:1, 8-9
    - b. Do we have a problem with being partial in the church?
- I. "Admonish one another" Romans 15:14
  1. The Bible is a balanced book. Why?

- a. What did Paul tell the brethren to do in vs.7?
  - (1) "receive and accept . . ." vs.7
  - (2) practice tough love . . . vs.14
- b. Do you find it easy to accept people – no matter what their background? Be honest!
- c. Why is it difficult to admonish some people? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Paul makes it very clear that there are certain personal requirements that qualify us for this task.
  - a. "full of goodness" \_\_\_\_\_ see Matt.7:3-5
  - b. "filled with knowledge" What does this mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see Eph.4:15; Gal.6:1-3
3. Paul gives us more guidelines for admonishing others. see Galatians 6:1-3
  - a. Only spiritually minded people (walking in the spirit) should attempt to deal with other people's sins. Galatians 5:16, 22-23
  - b. More than one spiritual Christian should be involved when attempting to restore a Christian who is involved in some sin. Galatians 6:1
  - c. Approach the person in need with gentleness and consider yourself . . . Gal.6:1
  - d. In this text, Paul was talking about sins that are committed against Christ and His church.
4. Will all attempts to confront someone in love be successful?
  - a. Does Galatians 6:1 guarantee a good outcome?
  - b. What is important? \_\_\_\_\_ Luke 15:1-7
- J. "Greet one another with a holy kiss" Romans 16:16
  1. This was a very important exhortation in the mind of Paul. Was this the only time he made this exhortation to brethren?
    - a. 1Cor.16:20; 2Cor.13:12; 1Thess.5:26 – "all the brethren . . ."
    - b. Peter – 1Peter 5:14 – "with a kiss of love"
  2. There is in this text, Rom.16:16, a cultural dimension from Paul to the brethren. What are the different cultural dimensions from culture to culture and how do they vary?
    - a. Different forms of greeting \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. Be sensitive when greeting someone \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. The emotional and spiritual side to greeting others \_\_\_\_\_

#### Conclusion

1. Where does the experience of worship and fellowship fit in all that we have learned in this study?
  - a. Acts 2:42-47
  - b. When Christians practice these injunctions given by Paul, we will experience love relationships with one another that provide a spiritual and emotional foundation that will help the local body grow into the image of Christ.
  - c. What else will fellowship and worship do for the body of believers in the local church? It will grow our relational experience with:
    - (1) the Godhead . . . (2) The brethren . . .
  - d. see Hebrews 10:19-25
2. Why was the church of our Lord in Jerusalem so dynamic in fellowship, worship and outreach?
  - a. see Acts 2:46
  - b. In that day, Christians had to meet in homes. Why?
  - c. Because Christians could not own property to build a church building and could not meet in the temple courts or in synagogues, did it keep them from growing in number?
  - d. Are there places in the world where Christians are not allowed to meet in homes?
3. What has this study taught you about practicing the "one another" concepts given by Paul? Are you willing to pray that God will expand your participation and involvement within the body of Christ as a whole?