



Examining the One Another Passages

**Q1 2020 Adult Class
Discussion led by Tim Torno**

The One Another Passages



Review from Last Week

1. What did we learn about the design of the local church in Romans 12:4-8 and I Corinthians 12:12-15?
2. What did we learn last week about the responsibility that we have toward one another within the local church?
3. What are some fast facts about the “One Another” passages?
4. What does Ephesians 4:15-16 tell us how the local church will grow?

Love One Another



Introduction

John 13:34-35

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

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Why did Jesus call the command to love one another a “new commandment”? What was different about it?

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1. This is how the world will know we are true disciples.

John 13:35

35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, *if you have love for one another.*"

John 15:12

12 "This is My commandment, *that you love one another*, just as I have loved you.

John 15:17

7 "This I command you, *that you love one another.*

What type of love is Jesus referring to in these passages? What is different about that type of love?

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2. Without love, nothing else matters.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, *but do not have love*, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, *but do not have love*, I am nothing. 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, *but do not have love*, it profits me nothing.

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2. Without love, nothing else matters.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

What does agape love include in practice? What does it not include in practice?

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3. Love requires actions, not just words.

1 John 3:18

18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, *but in deed and truth.*

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What does it mean to really love “in deed and truth”?

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3. Love requires actions, not just words.

Romans 12:9-10

9 *Let love be without hypocrisy.* Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;
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What are some examples of hypocritical expressions of love?

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3. Love requires actions, not just words.

Romans 12:11-16

11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 *contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.*

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 *Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.* 16 *Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly.* Do not be wise in your own estimation.

What are some practical ways in which to show our true love in deed and truth from this passage?

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1 Peter 1:22

22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a *sincere* love of the brethren, *fervently love one another from the heart*,
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What is indicated by the descriptive words “sincere”, “fervent” and “from the heart”? Do these come naturally?

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1 Peter 3:8-9

8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, *having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; 9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.*

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What are some characteristics of our love for one another as provided in this ¹passage?

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1 John 4:7-12

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and *everyone who loves is born of God and knows God*. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has seen God at any time. *If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.*

What is indicated here by those who love one another? How is His love “perfected in us”?

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Self Examination

With Other Christians:

1. ___ I'm willing to serve others even when I am not given public recognition.
2. ___ I'm actually looking for opportunities to be a servant.
3. ___ I'm praying for other Christians at least as much as I pray for myself.
4. ___ I'm willing to become involved in other Christian's lives.
5. ___ I'm using my material possessions to help others and the local church.
6. ___ I am practicing hospitality.

With our Families:

7. ___ I want to serve others rather than be served.
8. ___ I put others first before me.
9. ___ I look for opportunities to honor others rather than to be honored.
10. ___ I make sure to put others needs first over my own needs.

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Assignment for Next Week

1. Read and answer the questions on page 15.
2. Identify just one of the “one another” commands that you may not be particularly strong in.
3. Pray for forgiveness (if necessary), strength and courage to take the needed action pertaining to that command.
4. Exercise that single one another on someone in this local church at least once this next week. We will call that person your Secret One Another Recipient (“SOAR”).

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Questions for Thought and Discussion

1. We said in this lesson that “love one another” is foundational to all of the other One Another commands. Why is the case? Are there other one another commands that are also foundational?
2. What key attitudes of agape love do you learn from I Corinthians chapter 13 that pertain to loving one another in the Lord’s church?
3. I John 3:18 tells us to love not only with words but more importantly, with our actions. What are some specific works that you can undertake to demonstrate active forms of love in the Lord’s church?

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Questions for Thought and Discussion

4. Read I Cor 12:14-27 and answer the following questions:
 - a. What is taught by Paul about the interdependence of the members of the body?
 - b. What is taught by Paul about the humility that each member should have toward one another?
 - c. What is taught by Paul about the unity that the body should have?

5. We said in a prior lesson that “the local church, when it functions as God designed it, is a taste of heaven on earth”.
 - a. Do you agree with this statement and if so, why? If not, why not?
 - b. What can be done to ensure this is always a true statement?

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Conclusions

1 Peter 4:8:

And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins.

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How will our love for one another “cover a multitude of sins”?