

## INTRODUCTION

- the importance of love in the building up of the body; expressed in what we think, say, and now do to one another

## EXPOSITION

I. **SERVE ONE ANOTHER – 1Peter 4:10**

- Gk. diakoneo = serve, wait on, care for, provide for
- 1.) Service is a stewardship - each has been given a gift for the purpose of serving
- 2.) Service is to work with God - an application of God's manifold grace; 1Cor3:9; 2Cor6:1
- 3.) Service is for the glory of God – v.11
- Mk10:45 expression of Christ-likeness; showing what Christ is like

II. **SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER – Galatians 5:13**

- Gk. douleuo = be a slave, be subjected to; to serve as a servant
- Eph5:21 (Gk. hupotaso) = place oneself in subjection; be under authority; in the fear of God (not disconnected)
- 1.) This submission is one of the purposes of our liberation – v.13
- 2.) This submission is one of love, not slavish and grudging service – v.13
- 3.) This submission is the key to greatness in the Kingdom – Mk10:44
- As we are servants of Christ, so we are servants of His body

III. **CONSIDER ONE ANOTHER - Heb 10:24**

- Gk. katanoeo = think about, notice, observe, be aware of, consider closely, be concerned about, examine
- Act11:6 Peter carefully looks at the sheet; Ps119:15 to meditate and \*contemplate\* God's ways
- The purpose is to pay attention to others to stir up love and good works in ourselves and in them (v.25)

IV. **SYMPATHIZE WITH ONE ANOTHER - 1Pet3:8**

- Gk. sumpathays (\*compassion\*) = sum/pathay – with/feelings, emotions, desires
- Rom12:15 weep/rejoice with others; 1Cor12:26 members suffer, rejoice; Heb13:3 prisoners
- This takes mental energy, and entering into one another's life; a-pathy – lack of lack of emotion/feeling/concern

V. **PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER – James 5:16**

- Gk. euxomai = a strong wish which moves one to prayer; to so desire something to move to ask the Sovereign
- Gal6:2 (Gk. bastadzo) support, sustain, help carry, pick up; (Gk. baros) = burden, weight
- That in relation to the sins of others, and the humble dealing with them

VI. **FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER – Ephesians 4:32**

- Gk. charidzomai = forgive, cancel a debt, give generously
- The standard and paradigm is Christ's forgiveness; one reason some are so stingy with forgiveness is that they have a skewed view of God's character
- We are prone to think that God is quick to anger and slow in mercy, but it is the opposite Ps103:8
- This is what we should be as parents, and with one another

VII. **ENDURE ONE ANOTHER – Ephesians 4:2**

- Gk. anechomai = endure, be patient, especially in light of difficulty (i.e. when things aren't easy)
- This done with Gk. makrothumia = a state of emotional calm in the face of difficulty, without complaint or irritation
- This includes humility, gentleness, etc.; The desire of this is unity in the Spirit with peace

VIII. **RECEIVE ONE ANOTHER – Romans 15:7**

- Gk. proslambanomai - welcome, receive, take hold of with friendliness; begins in the heart, but expressed outwardly
- As human beings, God has connected our heart with behavior, and it should reflect it
- Illustration: "I'm so happy" with the same expression as "I'm so mad"; rejoicing, especially in Psalms is connected to loud singing, clapping of hands, etc.; sadness is related to a fallen countenance
- Prov15:13; 25:23; 27:17 sharpening of countenance
- Rom16:16 Gk. philayma, from phileo; it is a "holy" kiss, not carnal or titilating (to excite); 1Cor16:20; 2Cor13:12; 1Thes5:26
- 1Peter 5:14 (Gk. en philaymati agapays) a kiss of love, an agape kiss;

**APPLICATION**

- Believers: we do all of this, because as believers this is what Christ has done to us; it is by being consumed with that that we are enabled to do these things to others
- Unbelievers: this is what God offers you in the Gospel if you come to the Lord Jesus