

# Sermon Notes

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Date: November 10, 2019

Message: The Church: Committed to One Another

Text: Selected Passages

## Local Church

An exclusive community, designed by God, loved by Him, committed to one another, with an eternal destiny.

**Review:** The Local church is:

- An exclusive community (messages 1 & 3)
- Designed by God (message 2)
- Loved by Him (message 4)
- Committed to one another (today's message)
- With an eternal destiny (next week's message)

Today I want to focus on a number of passages of Scripture that emphasize the relationship that believers are to have with one another in the context of the local church. Many of these passages include the phrases "one another" or "each other".

The passages can be broken down into four general categories where believers' commitment to one another is highlighted (even commanded): Unity, Hospitality, Love, Edification.

### 1. Unity (harmony, one mind/purpose)

**Acts 2:41-47 & 4:32-37**

**Philippians 2:1-4**

“Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.”(1Corinthians 1:10)

“I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.” (Philippians 4:2)

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 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. (Romans 12:15-16)

(See also 1 Peter 3:8)

## **2. Hospitality**

**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; **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**. (Romans 12:9-13)

“**Be hospitable** to one another without complaint.” (1 Peter 4:9)

**1**Let love of the brethren continue. **2****Do not neglect to show hospitality** to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. (Hebrews 13:1-2)

### 3. Love (forgiveness, care, service)

#### John 13:12-17, 34-35

#### Ephesians 4:31-5:2

**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, **23**for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God. (1 Peter 1:22-23)

**11**For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;

**16**We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. **17**But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? **18**Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth. (1 John 3:11, 16-18)

#### 4. Edification (build up)

##### Ephesians 4:10-16

1Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not *just* please ourselves. 2Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. 3For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, “THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME.” (Romans 15:1-3)

7But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:7)

12So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, seek to abound for the edification of the church. (1 Corinthians 14:12)

## **Thoughts and Questions to Ponder:**

### **Thoughts:**

These are commands for Christians in the context of the local church. This is not optional but required of those who believe.

The church is designed for our good/benefit not a “what can the church do for me” attitude, but for our growth in the grace and the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and in conformity to Him and for the benefit of other believers.

We need this type of community. I think we long for this type of community.

### **Questions:**

“Where do I do well as it relates to my commitment to other Christians?”

Where does the WCC do well as it relates to our commitment to one another?

Where do I/we need to do better?

How can I/we do better?

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