



# CREATING A CARING CONGREGATION

*(Practicing the "One Anothers" of the Bible)*

## **"Connected to One Another"**

Romans 12:5 and 1 Corinthians 12

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023**

Why is it beneficial for Christians to study the one anothers of the bible? How would your relationships change if you committed to being a doer of the word of God as it relates to the one anothers of the bible? (Read James 1:22-25) Imagine practicing the one anothers in your home and local church congregation. Will you commit to do your part of one another relationships?

1. Christians must always be mindful that we are only a portion of the church. We cannot do all the work of the church but only our part of the work. We are dependent on other Christians to serve with us to conduct the function of the church. When Christians isolate themselves from other Christians, they frustrate and fight against the plan of God for the church. Romans 12:3-8 and 1 Corinthians 12 focus on spiritual gifts and Christian relationships. Romans 12:5 teaches that we are a part of each other and belong to each other. Romans 12:5 states, "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one member one of another."
2. God has intentionally made us dependent upon each other by not giving any of us every spiritual gift the church needs. There is no place for the lone Christian in God's plan for the church. Romans 12:4 in the New International Version states, "Just as each of us has one body with many members, and those do not have the same function,." Notice that Christians do not have the same functions in the church. God incorporated diversity into the church, and we should honor and appreciate his wisdom.
3. Every Christian's participation is essential for the welfare of the congregation. 1 Corinthians 12:7 teaches that, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal". The question is what do you have and how are you using it to

help the church? If you refuse to use what you have to help the church, you choose to hurt the church.

4. Do your best to use your gift to bless the church. Romans 12:6-8 states; "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully".
5. Receive the ministry of others in the church. God positioned you in the church to both give and receive ministry. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 to gain a greater appreciation of how Christians are to experience our connectedness.
6. Consider these suggestions for doing the word of God that we studied tonight.
  - Express your appreciation to other Christians for their work in the church
  - Receive ministry from others as the Holy Spirit's provision for you
  - Value what the God has given you to bless the church as opposed to minimizing it
  - Ask other Christians what they think you offer the church
  - Express to other Christians the potential you see in them for service
  - Inform other Christians when their service blesses you in a special way
  - Inform other Christians when you miss any ministry they have stopped offering
  - Maximize your potential to bless the church with your gift
  - Create space or opportunities for others to serve
  - Show people that you care about them as a member of the church
  - Celebrate people for their service and accomplishments
  - Encourage people when service brings about discouragement