

“Love One Another with Tough Love!”

1) This is **crucial** truth—**practical** truth!
...**vital** to the growth of a healthy church! We **need**
each other; and, in that sense, we are **responsible**
for each other!

Matthew 22:37-40

2) Is my behavior or attitude more **important** to me
than it is **troubling** for them?

3) I think this speaks of our **witness**—as
individuals, and, as a church—to our community.
Only **unity** brings glory to God! And, **unity** brings
pleasure to our Heavenly Father!

Psalms 69:9; 1 Peter 2:21; John 13:34; Phil. 2:4-5

4) As the Body of Christ, we **take in** everybody that
Jesus **brings us**.

Galatians 3:16

5) Jesus was promised **through** Israel—but the
promise was also made **to** the Gentiles!

Psalms 18:49; Deut. 32:43; Psalm 117:1-2;
Isaiah 11:10

6) “We need to be **paramedics**, not the **police**.”

7) If we bear one another’s **burdens** we would not
shrink from seeking to **restore** a brother who has
fallen into sin, by—sharing his load—whenever
temptations oppress him or life depresses him.

Galatians 6:1-2; John 13:34; Galatians 5:16

8) “If we obeyed *Paul’s* instructions as we should,
much unkind **gossip** would be avoided, more serious
backsliding prevented, the **good** of the Church
advanced, and the **name** of Christ glorified.”

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Life Groups

Life Groups are the best way to get connected at Open Gate! A Life Group is a small group of 10-16 people who meet weekly to share, study, and support one another. The purpose of Life Groups is to strengthen relationships with each other and the Lord. Signup for a Life Group today!

Food for Thought for the week of April 10, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

****Since Life Groups are on break, feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions!****

1) In this week's message, we were encouraged to study the "one another" passages of Scripture. Some (not all) of them are below. As you read each one, summarize God's command in your own words.

1 Peter 4:8 - *"And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins.""*

Romans 12:10 - *"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;"*

Colossians 3:16 - *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

Romans 12:16 - *"Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion."*

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1 Corinthians 11:33 - "Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another."

Hebrews 10:25 - "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Ephesians 5:21 - "submitting to one another in the fear of God."

Which of the above passages do you most struggle with?

2) Read the following passage about love.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NLT - "[4] Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud [5] or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. [6] It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. [7] Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. [8] Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!"

If you had to pick only one thing, what aspect of love is hardest for you with your...

...Family?

...Neighbors?

...Friends?

...Enemies?

Take time to pray for God's love in each of these areas.

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