



All the “One Another” commands in the New Testament

Big Idea

Being **meaningfully** part of a **committed** community is **God’s idea** of what is **good for us**.



Here’s an overview of how it’s applied to the church in the New Testament:

100

47

60%

It’s used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses. 47 of those verses give instructions to the church, and 60% of those instructions come from Paul.

UNITY

One-third of the one-another commands deal with the unity of the church.



1. Be at peace with one another (Mk 9:50)
2. Don’t grumble among one another (Jn 6:43)
3. Be of the same mind with one another (Ro 12:16, 15:5)
4. Accept one another (Ro 15:7)
5. Don’t bite, devour, and consume one another—seriously, guys, don’t eat each other (Ga 5:15)
6. Don’t boastfully challenge or envy one another (Ga 5:26).
7. Gently, patiently tolerate one another (Ep 4:2)

8. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another (Ep 4:32)
9. Bear with and forgive one another (Co 3:13)
10. Seek good for one another, and don’t repay evil for evil (1 Th 5:15)
11. Don’t complain against one another (Jas 4:11, 5:9)
12. Confess sins to one another (Jas 5:16)

LOVE

One-third of these commands instruct Christians to love one another.



13. 14. Love one another (Jn 13:34, 15:12, 17; Ro 13:8; 1 Th 3:12, 4:9; 1 Pe 1:22; 1 Jn 3:11, 4:7, 11; 2 Jn 5)
14. Through love, serve one another (Ga 5:13)
15. Tolerate one another in love (Ep 4:2)
16. Be devoted to one another in love (Ro 12:10)

HUMILITY

About 15% stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.



17. Give preference to one another in honour (Ro 12:10)
18. Regard one another as more important than yourselves (Php 2:3)
19. Serve one another (Ga 5:13)
20. Wash one another’s feet (Jn 13:14)

21. Don’t be haughty: be of the same mind (Ro 12:16)
22. Be subject to one another (Ep 5:21)
23. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another (1 Pe 5:5)

HERE’S THE REST

24. Do not judge one another, and don’t put a stumbling block in a brother’s way (Ro 14:13)
25. Bear one another’s burdens (Ga 6:2)
26. Speak truth to one another (Ep 4:25)
27. Don’t lie to one another (Co 3:9)
28. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection (1 Th 4:18)
29. Encourage and build up one another (1 Th 5:11)
30. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (He 10:24)
31. Pray for one another (Jas 5:16)
32. Be hospitable to one another (1 Pe 4:9)
33. Teach and admonish one another with songs, hymns, and spiritual songs (Co 3:16)

Of course, Jesus and the apostles give many more instructions to the church; these “one another” passages are a good start, though.

Also: make sure you read these in context! These commands come from Jesus, Peter, John, Paul, and James, and they’re scattered across the New Testament. Don’t just stop at this list: dig into these passages to see what the author was talking about.