

Love One Another-Church: Part-4

(adapted from a Kent Liles message)

To practice God's "one anothers," you need to connect with other Christ-followers = church.

- God has hardwired us to crave love, first to connect with God, then to connect with others. The vehicle to experience that connection is the "gathering" which we call the church, *Heb 10:24-25*.
- Jesus is our High Priest, *Heb 10:19-21*. The sacrificial blood of Jesus gives His followers access to God. Have you accepted His payment for your sins and made Him your Lord?

We gather to encourage our pursuit of God

- Draw near to God with a true heart, *Jas 4:8*.
- When we gather, our intent should be to draw near to God, pray, sing praise, hear His Word, and serve one another, *Heb 10:22*.
- It's contagious. The more other believers surround you, the closer you become to God. It's like rivers of living water flowing from your being into their souls and from their souls to you.

We gather to strengthen our hope in God

- You get pressure from the world, flesh, and devil to veer away from God.
- Our combined individual hope becomes a collective force, inspiring one another to **hold fast** during challenges, *Heb 10:23*.
- Also, the hope we share becomes a beacon of hope to a world that is desperate for an anchor.

We gather to inspire living like God

- God wants us to stir up love and good works together, *Heb 10:24*.
- Consider one another. There will be times when you are hurting and need some "one-anothering" from others. There should also be times when you aim to be a blessing to others.
- Ask God to make you a catalyst for inspiring others to pursue a relationship with Jesus and live like Him.
- Make gathering a priority so you can love God and others fully, *Heb 10:25*.

Self-Assessment Exercise: Loving Others

How true are the following statements for you?

	not true <—>completely true
Gathering with other Christ-followers encourages me on my walk with Christ.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Worshipping with other Christ-followers strengthens my hope in God.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
I ask God to make me a catalyst for inspiring others to pursue a relationship with Jesus.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Gathering with other Christ-followers is a priority for me.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

Based on this self-assessment, ask God where He wants you to make some changes.

For more Bible study guides, look under the Tools page of: <https://gracelead.co>

Brain teaser #46:

What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

(for answer see the bottom of this page)

(short)