Pray One For Another

Pray For and With People

Too often we say to a friend, "Well, I will be praying for you," or "I'll be sure to pray about that." But we don't actually pause that very moment and seize the moment for the glory of God.

A friend told me of working as a janitor in a high rise office building. One night after most everyone had left he encountered the CEO of the company still in his room but in excruciating pain. That brother began to chat about the back injury and testified of how God had healed him of a similar affliction. The affluent business man expressed awe over such faith and experience with God. Then my friend leaped at the opportunity and asked, "Can I pray for you right now?" The business man was taken back and responded, "Well, I guess so. If you think it will do any good." So he laid his hand on his head and prayed for him. The CEO commented as he walked out the door. "You know I think that is the first time someone ever prayed for me. Thank you."

I often challenge my congregation to train themselves to avoid ever saying, "I'll pray for you," without actually doing so on the spot. One dear lady came back the next week in tears to tell me that she had met a friend on the street downtown and asked if she could pray for her right then and there. The woman was impressed and consented. Right there on the busy sidewalk this saint laid her hand on her friend and prayed out loud. Now she was thrilled at the response and how good it made her feel that she had not neglected the opportunity to minister to someone.

Have you ministered to someone in prayer today?

Let's find some practical ways to exercise this hands-on praying. How can you practically do these "one another" things and to whom?

What We are To Do With One Another

These are commands... not suggestions!

- 1. Accept ... (Romans 15:5-7)
- 2. Be kind ... (Eph 4:32)
- 3. Lay down your life ... (1 John 3:16)
- 4. Put up with ...(Eph 4:2)
- 5. Honor ... (Romans 12:10)
- 6. Love ...(John 13:34; 15:12; 17) Fervently(1 Pet 1:22)
- 7. Serve ...(Gal 5:13)
- 8. Submit to ...(Eph 5:21)
- 9. Wash feet ...(John 13:14)
- 10. Bear burdens ... (Gal 6:2)
- 1. Greet ...(Romans 16:16)
- 2. Admonish ... (Romans 15:14)
- 3. Confess faults ... (James 5:16)
- 4. Comfort ...(1 Thess 4:18)
- 5. Edify ... one another(1 Thess 4:18)
- 6. Exhort ...(Heb 3:13)
- 7. Forgive ...(Eph 4:32)
- 8. Sing to ...(Eph 5:19)
- 9. Pray for ...(James 5:16)
- 10. Spur on ...(Heb 10:24)
- 1. Judge not ...(Romans 14:13)
- 2. Envy not ... (Gal 5:15)
- 3. Provoke not ...(Gal 5:15)
- 4. Bite not ... (Gal 5:15)
- 5. Devour not ... (Gal 5:15)
- 6. Lie not ... (Colossians 3:9)
- 7. Defraud not... (1 Thessalonians 4:6)
- 8. Show no partiality ...(1 Tim 5:21)
- 9. Forsake not gathering ... (Heb 10:25)
- 10. Put no stumblingblock ...(Rom. 14:13)

These one another ministries were never intended to be done Sunday morning in church, but together in each other's homes. (Acts Acts 2:46 /Acts 20:20) It is the rejection of togetherness in the body of Christ that destroys the true church's testimony. (Heb. 10:25)