

Community: The One Another Life Series

There is a little Greek word that has a lot to teach us about how we treat others. It is the word “allelon” [pronounced – ah (like open your mouth and say ahhh) – lay – lawn] which is usually translated “one another”. This word occurs 100 times in the Greek New Testament and is used in all but 5 books of the New Testament (1 & 2 Timothy, Philemon, 3 John and Jude).

We are going to spend the next several months looking at these “one another” passages of scripture so that it will encourage us to treat others with love, care, compassion, hospitality, and so much more.

Read these passages & answer this question for each one:

“What impact would it have on your relationships if you really did what the verse said?”

- Romans 12:16
- Galatians 6:2
- James 5:16

The “one anothers” impact our relationships with others for the good. These aren’t just words on a page. These words command us to treat other people as Christ treated people. When we do that we will far more likely live lives of peace and great joy. Imagine what would happen in the church if every single Christian lived out these verses.

In **Romans 12:5** Paul tells us that we are to see each other as all united through Christ and in doing so, recognize that we actually belong to “one another”. The NIV here translates “allelon” as “all the others” but the idea is the same. We are all connected but more than that, we belong to one another. When we say “belong” we usually think of property...Paul isn’t talking about some sort of spiritual slavery here. Paul is talking about identity. He is saying that in Christ our “one another” runs so deep that we are united to the very core of who we are in Christ.

In **John 17:20-23**, Jesus tells us how the world will know that we come from Christ...

***20** “I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. **21** I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. **22** “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. **23** I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.*

The world doesn’t usually like unity. The world thrives on distrust, deception and drama. Instead, unity comes out of peace, well-being, and wholeness.

As we talk about these one another passages, we are first and foremost going to talk about how these transform us and unite us as the people of God. Second, we will spend time talking about what an impact these verses can have on the world around us as we live them out daily. The goal is for us to do something with it...to put it into practice so that God’s love can shine through us and be more than just good thoughts to discuss.

Simple Group Discussion Guide

Here is a simple group discussion guide that you can use to help your group accomplish the goal of putting into practice what the One Another passages are instructing us to do. It is all about working your way through three movements using some simple questions in each movement.

3 Movements:

- Looking Back
- Digging In
- Taking Action

Looking Back:

This movement is where group members share about their week, as well as how they acted on their “**I WILL**” statement from the Taking Action movement the week prior (see below), and respond to three questions...

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

This movement is where you read the passages together, consider the context of the passage, and respond to three questions...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

This movement is where group members commit to action by crafting an “**I WILL**” statement in response to three questions...

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

As you wrap up the group with a time prayer, make a point to pray for the people in your group (consider the Highs & Lows shared earlier). Also, ask God to give you favor and an opportunity to share what you have learned (“**I WILL**” statements) with the people in your lives you are attempting to be missional with.

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Lesson 1 - “Love One Another”

(31 Ways...pg.13)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

When did you feel love this week?

When did you experience a lack of love?

Read [John 13:1-17](#) & [John 15:1-17](#) & [1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
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Lesson 2 - “Pray For One Another”

(31 Ways...pg.84)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

Where were you in need of prayer this last week?

What challenges do you encounter when you attempt to spend time praying?

Read [Luke 11:1-12](#), [James 5:13-18](#) & [Matthew 7:7-11](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

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Lesson 3 - "Care For One Another"

(31 Ways...pg.35)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last "I WILL" statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

Describe an experience you had this week that made you feel like you were being cared for.

How did you intentionally care for someone this week?

Read [1 Corinthians 12:1-27](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we've looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you've learned in these passages?
- What is your specific "I WILL" statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

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Lesson 4 - “Bear One Another’s Burdens”

(31 Ways...pg.41)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

What feelings do you experience when someone with a burden comes looking for help?

How has someone helped you bear a burden?

What is it like to not have someone to help in a time of need?

Read [Galatians 6:1-10](#) ...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

As you wrap up the group with a time prayer, make a point to pray for the people in your group (consider the Highs & Lows shared earlier). Also, ask God to give you favor and an opportunity to share what you have learned (“**I WILL**” statements) with the people in your lives you are attempting to be missional with.

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Lesson 5 - “Encourage & Build Up One Another”

(31 Ways...pg.74)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

When was the last time someone really encouraged you?

When was a time when you encouraged someone and they also encouraged you (mutual encouragement)?

How does it feel to give and give but never get anything in return?

Read [1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11](#) & [Hebrews 10:19-25](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

As you wrap up the group with a time prayer, make a point to pray for the people in your group (consider the Highs & Lows shared earlier). Also, ask God to give you favor and an opportunity to share what you have learned (“**I WILL**” statements) with the people in your lives you are attempting to be missional with.

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Lesson 6 - "Submit To One Another"

(31 Ways...pg.55)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last **"I WILL"** statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

Where did you "dig in" this week (or recently) insisting on your own way?

Where did you "give in" and do what someone else wanted you to do?

When you hear the word "submit" what comes to mind?

What is it about God that makes us think that submitting to him would be the right thing to do?

Read [Ephesians 5:21-33](#) & [Ephesians 6:1-9](#) & [Romans 13:1-7](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we've looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you've learned in these passages?
- What is your specific **"I WILL"** statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

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Lesson 7 - “Admonish One Another”

(31 Ways...pg.62)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

When you think of how conflict was dealt with in your home as a child, what comes to mind?

Sometimes we need a “kick in the pants”, other times we need a “pat on the back”. What do both of these have to do with admonishment?

What are the challenges to giving or receiving admonishment?

Read [Colossians 3:1-17](#) & [2 Corinthians 7:2-16](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
- Who are you going to tell about what you discovered this week?

Pray Together

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Lesson 8 - "Motivate, Stir Up, Spur On One Another"

(31 Ways...pg.87)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last **"I WILL"** statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

When you hear the word "provoke" what thoughts come to mind?

What synonyms can you think of that capture the positive use of the word "provoke"?

How would you explain the intent behind the old saying, "burr under your saddle"?

Read [Hebrews 10:19-24](#) & [2 Timothy 3:10-17](#) & [Galatians 5:1-26](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we've looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you've learned in these passages?
- What is your specific **"I WILL"** statement? (encourage people to write it out)
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Pray Together

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Lesson 9 - “Forgive One Another”

(31 Ways...pg.51)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last “**I WILL**” statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

Why is our identity in Christ an important starting point when talking about forgiveness?

Why is it that we sometimes think someone must earn or really deserve to be forgiven before we offer forgiveness?

What are the negative consequences of unforgiveness?

Read [Colossians 3:1-15](#) & [Ephesians 4:17-32](#) & [Matthew 6:14-15](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we’ve looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you’ve learned in these passages?
- What is your specific “**I WILL**” statement? (encourage people to write it out)
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Lesson 10 - "Confess To One Another"

(31 Ways...pg.97)

Looking Back:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last "I WILL" statement, and who did you share it with?

Digging In:

Have you ever confessed your sins to someone? How did that go? What did you learn from it?

What are the benefits of practicing confession? What are the challenges?

Read [James 5:13-20](#) & [1 John 1:1-10](#) & [Psalm 32:1-5](#)...

- What stands out to you in the scriptures we've looked at? (making observations)
- What do these scriptures reveal about God?
- What do these scriptures reveal about people?

Taking Action:

- How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to live out what you've learned in these passages?
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