**Coming Home: One Another Passages #2**

Remember: Eph 2:11-12. As Gentiles outside of Christ we were:

a. v. 11 Uncircumcized

b. v. 12 Separate from Christ

c. v. 12 Excluded from citizenship

d. v. 12 Without hope

e. v. 12 Without God

No home!!!! Talk about being on the outside looking in. But… v. 13

Eph 2:13-22 But now, in Christ:

a. v. 13 We are brought near by the blood of Christ.

b. v. 14 We are made one (Jew and Gentile)

c. v. 14 The barrier of hostility has been destroyed.

d. v. 16 We are one body

e. v. 19 We are fellow-citizens with God’s people.

f. v. 19 We are members of God’s household/family.

g. v. 21 We are a holy temple in the Lord

h. v. 22 We are a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

How will we create home? By implementing the One Another Scriptures in our lives and in our church.

Last Week:

I. Love one another

John 13:34-35 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Phil 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests, but each of you to the interests of others. *In your relationships* with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus….

1 Peter 1:22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth, so that you have sincere love (phileo) for one another, love (agape) one another deeply from the heart.

We need to phileo one another. We need to have a warm, friendly, safe, intimate, warm, family kind of love for one another.

II. Submit to one another

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

What would it be like to live in a family in which all individuals submitted themselves to one another—if we listened to each other and put ourselves, voluntarily, in a position of submission to one another.

III. Serve one another in love Gal 5:13

1. The ones who are on the fringe or

2. The ones who do not ask.

Tonight:

Carry each other’s burdens Gal 6:2

Bear with one another Eph 4:2 Col 3:13

Accept one another Romans 15:7

Forgive one another Col 3:13, Eph 4:32

Be devoted to one another and honor one another Romans 12:10

IV. Carry each other’s burdens Gal 6:2

This one another passage is an extension of the previous command to serve one another. It is a specific kind of serving one another.

Serve one another is intended to be reciprocal. I serve you, you serve me.

Last night we had eight into our home and served them dinner.

Today, Chris and May brought a bunch of excess food over to our house. They served us.

But…

We are a family. Family members have burdens from time to time.

Carry each other’s burdens is not reciprocal.

You are burdened right now. I am not. I come over to your house and I help to carry your burdens.

Qualification: Gal 6:5 Each one should carry his/her own load/backpack. Gr. *phortion* cargo, load, burden.

Each of us works if it is at all possible.

Each of us pays our bills, cleans and fixes our cars, takes care of routine relationship issues, goes on dates. Makes routine decisions, etc. If you possibly can, get a car so you do not burden others with having to give rides. If you can, become financially independent of your parents.

There is a healthy and good kind of Christian independence. We did a Bible study recently on dependence and independence.

But. Galatians 5:2 is about a burden that is simply too heavy for one person to carry. *baros* Then we need to jump in there and help out. We are family.

That is why we need to keep some spare oil in the lamp (Matthew 25:1-13) for when a brother or sister becomes burdened.

Financial catastrophe.

Relationship catastrophe.

Health catastrophe.

House burns down.

Context of Gal 6:2—a sin one becomes entangled in and needs help out of.

We are all very busy. But… keep at least a little bit of space in your busy schedule to jump in there.

Be on the lookout.

Hesitate to ask when it is a backpack, but also be willing to ask when it is a burden.

Be prepared to do this for the strays we are trying to bring back home.

Be prepared to do this for those we are studying the Bible with.

V. Bear with one another

Eph 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Not just bearing with one another!!! In love.

Loving the differences.

Loving those who are into dungeons and dragons.

Loving those who are into killing innocent animals and fishes

Loving those who love to shop.

Loving political conservatives.

Loving political progressives.

Loving those who dress poorly.

Loving those who seem to you to make clothing too important.

Loving those who need dental work and to shower more often.

Loving the extremely outgoing.

Loving the extremely introverted.

What is the key? Humility.

Q: How many of us think that our opinion is usually right?

Colossians 3:12-13 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

Loving those who still struggle with a sin that we do not struggle with.

We easily bear with those who share our sins, but not those whose sin is something we have overcome.

This does not mean sin is OK, but the sinner is OK. (although there is a limit to that)

There are sins we will not overcome during this life. Bear with one another.

VI. Accept one another Romans 15:7 Closely related to bearing with one another.

Context: Romans 15:1 He is talking about those strong consciences accepting those with weak consciences and vice versa. And go back to Rom 14:19-23. What kind of meat we can eat—whether it has been sacrificed to an idol. Whether and how much wine it is acceptable for a Christian to drink. V. 23 If it offends your conscience then do not do it!! But accept one another.

Accepting one another on debatable matters in the church.

Who is up there in worship. Some say only disciples who are doing really well spiritually. Others say we can encourage our teens and even our visitors by letting them express themselves.

The point: accept those who are either “weak” or “strong” on these issues.

What roles women ought to play in leadership and worship. This is a current “hot” issue.

Some say we should go out of our way to put people of color into leadership positions. Others say that it should be 100% based on “merit”

We need to accept those with a different view.

What kind of movie we can watch, music we can listen to.

Dating practices and advice. Go ahead, have a strong opinion, but accept those with a different opinion.

Tattos, drinking.

Accept one another does not mean say nothing. I have strong opinions about drinking.

This does not mean everything goes!!! We will not have women preaching here. Drinking 5 beers is sin! Women wearing obviously provocative clothing is not Christ-like. This calls for wisdom.

But what does the Bible say? Accept one another.

VII. Forgive one another Col 3:13, Eph 4:32

Related to bearing with one another and accepting one another. Those are about things that are a matter of opinion or culture or personal taste.

This is about things that are certainly wrong—sin! We do not “accept” sin. We do not “bear with” sin.

We oppose sin and we call people to repent of sin. Right???

But Colossians 3:13 In matters that are not right/wrong, we accept, but in matters of right/wrong, we still forgive one another. We accept the sinner.

How? As the Lord forgave you!

Ephesians 4:32 Same thing. …just as God also forgave you.

Remember the parable of the unmerciful servant. Matthew 18:21-34

If time, read 32-34 Q: do you struggle with forgiving those who have sinned against you. What is the solution, biblically? Easy! Remember what God has forgiven you.

VIII. Be devoted to one another and honor one another Romans 12:10

Alan Lakin decides to call me every Monday.

Encourage each other/Build each other up 1 Thess 4:18, 5:11

Teach and admonish one another Col 3:16

Confess your sins to one another and pray for each other James 5:16

Encourage one another Heb 10:25