



Abundant Living Ministries

Encouraging Christian Living since 1978

March 2023

ONE ANOTHERING—How do you like that word... “anothering?” I don’t think I’ve ever seen it in print before.

Some years back, Sharon and I printed a list of what we titled the **ONE ANOTHER Scripture Verses**. It was not exhaustive, by any means, but was enlightening, encouraging, and convicting all at the same time. Interested in reading some of them?

Let me start with a few of the “nice” ones... Perhaps next month I’ll list some of the “unpleasant” ones.

 **Accept one another**, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. (Romans 15:7)

 **Carry each other’s burdens**, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2)


 **This is my commandment that you love one another**, as I have loved you. (John 15:12)


 **Encourage one another and build each other up**. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

 **Be devoted to one another in brotherly love**. (Romans 12:10)

 **Serve one another in love**. (Galatians 5:13)

 **Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other**. (Ephesians 4:32)

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

 **Spur one another on toward love and good deeds**. (Hebrews 10:24)

 **Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another**. (1 Peter 5:5)

 **Live in harmony with one another**. (1 Peter 3:8-9)

As we, daily, treat our brothers and sisters in these ways... Then I guess we will be “one anothering...” huh?!

So, yes... Enjoy the one anothering!

John Charles (for Sharon and the rest here at ALM)



Open Arms Childbirth Class

Four Consecutive Thursdays
March 30 – April 21, 2023
7:00 pm

Covering the important information offered in a hospital course, *Open Arms* adds a distinctively-Christian perspective. You will enjoy meeting other expectant couples as you gain practical help in preparing for a great labor and delivery. There is no cost for this course. **Register by contacting the ALM office.**

POWER RESTORED



Question: I have been a Christian for many years, but currently my spiritual life is very dull. Most days I feel little joy or connection with God. I pray, but don't really expect answers. What advice can you give me?

Response: It is normal to go through some "desert" times in our spiritual journey. But there is hope and help! Remember that Jesus said He came to give us life and *life more abundantly* (John 10:10). Clearly His will is for us to experience great joy and fulfillment on a daily basis. Following are some tips that can help believers recharge their spiritual battery and start operating again in the full power of God's Spirit.

Quick Repentance

Sin is an unpopular topic these days. Our culture doesn't like to admit that such a thing even exists. And even many Christians have been lulled into thinking that since Jesus is their Savior, they no longer need to address sin in their lives. However, sin is like debris clogging a water pipe. It blocks the flow of God's power in our lives. I John 1:9 instructs us to *confess our sins...* actually name them one by one. A crucial habit for Christians to develop is immediate confession when they sense the convicting voice of the Holy Spirit.

For example, "Oh Lord, please forgive me for the harsh way I spoke to my husband. You said that *no unwholesome word should come out of my mouth* (Ephesians 4:29). I know the way I spoke was wrong. Thank You for Your forgiveness. I purpose to speak differently next time, with Your help!"

Or, "Lord, please forgive me for my anxious thoughts. I realize I have been worried and fearful about my difficult situation. You instructed me to *not be anxious about anything* (Philippians 4:6). So I choose to once again place this problem in Your hands. Thank

You for carrying the burden for me. I don't know exactly how You are going to fix this, and I don't know when, but I believe that You are already at work on my behalf. I choose to trust You to do *over and above what I could ask for or imagine*" (Ephesians 3:20).

Instant Forgiveness

Almost every day we are wronged by someone... inconvenienced, taken for granted, treated unkindly, misunderstood, neglected, etc. This never feels good and can quickly cause little (or big) grudges to form within us. Like sin, this resentment also interferes with our relationship with God. Jesus told us that we need to *forgive those who have sinned against us* (Matthew 6:14).

For example, something as simple as being cut off in a lane of traffic, may cause our anger to flare and prompt nasty thoughts or even aggressive driving. Much better to instantly listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and talk to Him about what just happened and how you are feeling. "Lord, that guy just cut me off and that really makes me angry. I feel like blasting my horn at him, or looking for an opportunity to give him a taste of his own medicine. But Father, I know I don't own that man. You love Him. Perhaps he doesn't know You... perhaps he's having a hard day. I choose to forgive him. Lord, would You bless him today... You know what he needs. Thank You for forgiving me over and over and over again."

Scripture promises that *those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not be weary and walk and not faint* (Isaiah 40:31). Jesus is always ready and willing to refresh and re-energize us when we seek Him. So, don't wait another day to get your power restored!

Written by
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