

Our House Church DNA

IDENTITY

Truth: We affirm the classic truths of the Christian faith, based on the authority of Scripture. We major on the majors.

Love: We seek to love and worship God with all of our being, and to love all people as we love ourselves.

Royal Priests: We are a royal priesthood and we all have equal access to our God and equal ministry privileges.

Gifted Community: We are a family of gifted children. We are a body consisting of diverse and interdependent parts. We receive life and direction from our Lord Jesus Christ. Our body life is characterized by “one anothering”.

PRACTICES

Every Member Participation: Our meetings are characterized by every member contributing as he or she is led by the Holy Spirit. Many contributions flow out of spiritual giftedness. No human dominates the meeting.

Growth: We are committed to growing in intimacy with God, Godly character, spiritual maturity, and spiritual fruitfulness. We learn from each other through dialog and serving together.

Size: Our communities are large enough to have a diversity of spiritual giftings and small enough to ensure intimacy. We always welcome new members. We are willing to pay the price of multiplying into new communities so that there is room for new people, without compromising intimacy.

Outward Looking: We are committed to serving the community around us and bringing people into God’s Kingdom.

LEADERSHIP

God our Leader: God is our leader. He delights to lead through all of his children.

Influence - Not Control: God works through human leaders who are influencers and protectors of healthy dynamics within the community. The whole community, including leaders, is committed to moving in mutual submission.

Decision Making: Each community is self-governing with decisions made by consensus of the complete community. Elders are not the decision-makers, they ensure a healthy decision-making process.

No Pedestals: No one is on a pedestal above their brothers and sisters. There are no paid leaders within individual churches or at the network level.

NETWORKING

Broader Networking: Communities are part of a broader network of communities for mutual encouragement, large group worship, and to support specialized ministries which are beyond the scope of individual house churches.

Network Meetings: Network meetings follow the same principles as individual house church meetings. They are not controlled by or centered around a group of leaders. Everyone has opportunity to contribute as led by the Holy Spirit.

Specialized Ministry Groups: We encourage individuals with similar ministry passions to form teams to minister together. These groups are self-governing based on similar principles to house churches (e.g., consensus-based decision making).

REFERENCE

“Rediscovering The New Testament Church” A. Jacomb-Hood

The “One Anothers”

“One another” is two words in English, but it’s only one word in Greek: ἀλλήλων (*ah-LAY-loan*). It’s used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses. 47 of those verses give instructions to the church, and 60% of those instructions come from Paul.

Unity. One third of the one-another commands deal with the unity of the church.

1. Be at peace with one another ([Mk 9:50](#))
2. Don’t grumble among one another ([Jn 6:43](#))
3. Be of the same mind with one another ([Ro 12:16](#), [15:5](#))
4. Accept one another ([Ro 15:7](#))
5. Wait for one another before beginning the Eucharist ([1 Co 11:33](#))
6. Don’t bite, devour, and consume one another ([Ga 5:15](#))
7. Don’t boastfully challenge or envy one another ([Ga 5:26](#)).
8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another ([Ep 4:2](#))
9. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another ([Ep 4:32](#))
10. Bear with and forgive one another ([Co 3:13](#))
11. Seek good for one another, and don’t repay evil for evil ([1 Th 5:15](#))
12. Don’t complain against one another ([Jas 4:11](#), [5:9](#))
13. Confess sins to one another ([Jas 5:16](#))

Love. One third of them instruct Christians to love one another.

1. Love one another ([Jn 13:34](#), [15:12](#), [17](#); [Ro 13:8](#); [1 Th 3:12](#), [4:9](#); [1 Pe 1:22](#); [1 Jn 3:11](#), [4:7](#), [11](#); [2 Jn 5](#))
2. Through love, serve one another ([Ga 5:13](#))
3. Tolerate one another in love ([Ep 4:2](#))
4. Greet one another with a kiss of love ([1 Pe 5:14](#))
5. Be devoted to one another in love ([Ro 12:10](#))

Humility. About 15% stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.

1. Give preference to one another in honor ([Ro 12:10](#))
2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves ([Php 2:3](#))
3. Serve one another ([Ga 5:13](#))
4. Wash one another’s feet ([Jn 13:14](#))
5. Don’t be haughty: be of the same mind ([Ro 12:16](#))
6. Be subject to one another ([Ep 5:21](#))
7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another ([1 Pe 5:5](#))

Other.

1. Do not judge one another, and don’t put a stumbling block in a brother’s way ([Ro 14:13](#))
2. Greet one another with a kiss ([Ro 16:16](#); [1 Co 16:20](#); [2 Co 13:12](#))
3. Bear one another’s burdens ([Ga 6:2](#))
4. Speak truth to one another ([Ep 4:25](#))
5. Don’t lie to one another ([Co 3:9](#))
6. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection ([1 Th 4:18](#))
7. Encourage and build up one another ([1 Th 5:11](#))
8. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds ([He 10:24](#))
9. Pray for one another ([Jas 5:16](#))
10. Be hospitable to one another ([1 Pe 4:9](#))

Source: <https://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/>