

The Christians Relationship Toward Other Christians

Matthew 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Jesus reprimanded them for leaving undone some of the things they should have done. The Christian has many relationships in living the approved life toward God. Relationships toward: God, Christ, Civil Government, the world and toward our Brothers and Sisters.

Our thoughts will be confined to the right relationship, which we have to each other. Like the Pharisees, it is so easy to put emphasis on some things and leave others undone.

I Cor. 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is* Christ. (Also, see **I Cor. 12:12-27**)

God ordained the Body is to be a functioning unit, made up of many members. We are all dependent upon each other. We are to exercise earnest care and concern for one another. We owe it to one another to do all we can to keep peace in the body.

One of the greatest obligations we have to each other is to love one another.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Rom. 12:9-10 *Let* love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. *Be* kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

A love that is genuine and not hypocritical. A love that reaches out. We have a social obligation to one another in matters of hospitality.

Rom. 12:13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

I Peter 4:8-9 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

I believe these passages are not talking about church socials (potlucks), but individual Christians toward one another. Let us invite folks into our homes, and do it out of love.

We have Spiritual obligations to one another in other matters.

I Peter 4:15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or *as* a thief, or *as* an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

We need to draw the line between what concerns us and what does not. If Mr. wants to sleep in one bedroom and Mrs. in another, that is their business, not mine.

If someone invites you for breakfast, and serves you a yogurt and turnip green, that is their right, it is their privilege. We should not go away and talk to others about this.

We have an obligation to admonish one another.

Gal. 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Please read ***II Thess. 3:6-15.***

We have an obligation to communicate to the necessities of the Saints, but no Christian has the right to become lazy and refuse to work and abuse this privilege.

We have the obligation to exhort, love, reprove, forgive, pray, bear their burdens and be an example to each other. Just as Jesus the Christ came to serve, we should be the servant of each other.

Matt. 23:12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

The Jewish leaders loved honor, glory, the praise of men. Jesus exposed them. Jesus taught the road to greatness is not paved by scheming and maneuvering for place of position, but humble service.

Our relationship toward other Christians is:

Love one another.

Visit and be with each other.

Accept them as they are; do not talk about them to others unless it is to praise them.

Help them to correct their sins.

Be humble.

Dave Richards