

Sunday, October 28, 2018—Body Building: Admonishing One Another

Introduction

- I Timothy 4:7-8—this series is going to be about a kind of exercise, spiritual exercise. Spiritual exercise that is designed to build a spiritual body not a physical one. Our goal is to learn how to flex our spiritual muscles with the goal of building up the body of Christ.
- Philippians 2:12—this type of exercise is going to require working out and spiritual discipline. Our goal is to take the life of Christ that is in us and work it out through us or manifest it in our mortal flesh.

Admonishing One Another

- Romans 12:5—in our first study in this series, I introduced you to a concept that I am calling the one-anothering principle. The phrase “one of another” is a translation of a plural pronoun which means: “reciprocally” or “mutually.”
 - Reciprocal—“Mutual; done by each to the other” (Webster’s 1828)
 - Reciprocally—“Mutually; interchangeably; in such a manner that each affects the other and is equally affected by it.” (Webster’s 1828)
- Thus far we have observed the following one-anotherings:
 - Kindly affectioned one to another (Rom. 12:10)
 - Preferring one another (Rom. 12:10)
 - Not judge on another (Rom. 14:13)
 - Likeminded one toward another (Rom. 15:5)
 - Receive ye one another (Rom. 15:7)
- Romans 15:14—is where we find our next one-anothering statement, “able also to admonish one another.”
- The Greek word translated “admonish” in verse 14 occurs 8 times in 8 verses in the Greek text supporting the King James Bible. Of the 8 occurrences it is rendered in English as “warn” 4 times and “admonish” 4 times.
 - Acts 20:31—“warn”

- I Corinthians 4:14—“as my beloved sons I warn you”
 - Colossians 1:28—“warning”
 - Colossians 3:16—“admonishing”
 - I Thessalonians 5:12—“admonish”
 - I Thessalonians 5:14—“warn”
 - II Thessalonians 3:15—“admonish him as a brother”
- According to the *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) the based definition of “admonish” means to: “To exhort or urge (a person) *to* do something, esp. as a duty or obligation; to tell or warn (a person) *that* he or she should do something.”
 - While this helps me understand what it means to admonish someone it does not help in terms of grasping the tone and tenor of how it is to be done. The following verses and definitions will assist with discerning how it is to be done.
 - The OED offers I Cor. 4:14 as a scriptural example for the second meaning of admonish: “To give advice or warning, esp. by way of correction of error, or guidance as to future behavior.”
 - Notice that Paul warns them in I Cor. 4:14 “as my beloved sons.”
 - Likewise, the OED offers II Thess. 3:15 as a Biblical example of their third definition for admonish: “To advise or warn (a person), esp. by way of correction.”
 - Notice that how this is to be done according to the verse, “as a brother.”
 - Simply stated, to “admonish” someone means to put someone in mind of something or to warn, or caution one gently about future behavior.
 - Romans 15:14—believers ought to be “able also to admonish one another” or warn each other gently in a reciprocal manner.
 - Acts 27:9-10—Paul admonished the people he was with or put them in mind of the danger that lie ahead. Paul was not mean, ugly, or nasty he simply informed them of future danger should they continue in their current course of action.
 - An admonition or warning of danger ahead can come in one of two sources:
 - II Corinthians 10:11—the word of God

- Romans 15:14—other believers
- Romans 15:14—as believers we ought to be able to admonish one another. No one likes to be wrong or faulted, but if we desire to grow in right doctrine and conduct we must from time to time hear an admonition. One’s ability to receive admonishing reveals the character of that person. If someone is a scorner, wicked, or prideful they will hate being admonished and will fight back.
 - Proverbs 27:6
 - Psalms 141:5
- Titus 3:10—it is better to receive an admonition and heed it before it turns into open rebuke and rejection.
 - Proverbs 9:7
 - Proverbs 13:1
 - I Timothy 5:20
 - II Timothy 3:16
 - II Timothy 4:2
- Romans 15:14—being able to admonish one another is a logical outcome of the previous one-anotherings we have observed in the book of Romans. These one-anotherings seem to built on top of each other.
 - Kindly affectioned one to another (Rom. 12:10)
 - Preferring one another (Rom. 12:10)
 - Not judge on anther (Rom. 14:13)
 - Likeminded one toward another (Rom. 15:5)
 - Receive ye one another (Rom. 15:7)
- Saints who are endeavoring to treat one another in these ways ought to be able to receive and admonition for another believer. If after receiving an admonition someone cannot salute, greet, or sing with the saints that is a problem.
 - Romans 16:16—“Salute one another with a holy kiss.”

- I Corinthians 16:20—" . . . Greet ye one another with an holy kiss."
- II Corinthians 13:12—"Greet one another with an holy kiss."
- Colossians 3:16—if a saint cannot sing with other saints unto the Lord on account of having been admonished they are not operating on the basis of grace.
- Romans 14:19—as we follow after the things that make for peace so that we can edify each other we ought to be able to admonish one another. Admonish may hurt or may be uncomfortable but it will help establish the truth and proper conduct if done and received charitably.