

ONE
ANOTHER
THE PATH OF COMMUNITY

One Another: The Path Of Community | Serve One Another
(Galatians 5:13-18)

1. Read Galatians 5:13-18. You may want to read the whole of Galatians 5 to set the passage in its context. Do any words, phrases or themes particularly strike you? Why?
2. Share what comes to mind when you think about the idea of 'serving' others? Is it more reminiscent of Downton Abbey or of Mother Teresa? Are these helpful images of what serving others could/should look like?
3. Share stories of a time when you have been served well (or not so well) by another person. Can you think of times when your own service to another person has been misinterpreted, misunderstood, mistimed or unappreciated?
4. Discuss 'The Golden Rule'. Most people in the world aspire to this exhortation and the majority of world religions contain the same/similar ethic. What makes Jesus' underscoring of this ethic stand out from the masses (if at all)?
5. Does serving others come naturally to you? From what Paul says about the battle between 'the flesh' and the Spirit, does this help you understand why self-service is often prioritised over the service of others? How are you able to relate to Paul's words in Romans 7:19?
6. What's the logic of Paul's argument where he links serving others to freedom? You might want to think about where the line is between a servant and a slave. Discuss the problem Paul is tackling in Galatia. Can you think of equivalent problems in the church today?
7. How would you respond to the person who says, '*A Christian who is genuinely serving others will always be happy to neglect their needs for the sake of another*'? Are there ways of avoiding burnout in our service of Christ and others? What's the difference between service, sacrifice and martyrdom? What part does love and humility, (key ingredients in the command to serve one another), play?
8. Chris shared 4 ways to serve others in love on a daily basis. Can you recall them? Are you able to think of other ways?
9. Getting really practical, how do you plan to ground all this in action during the weeks ahead? Can you think of people that God might be calling you to serve in some way? Pray together for the empowerment of God's Spirit, alongside a God-given desire to serve. You may want to name a specific battle which you need to confront in this area.