

Bound on Three Sides: A Child Dedication Service

Discussion Guide – September 7, 2025

For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Some “one another” examples in the New Testament:

1. Be devoted to one another in love – Romans 12:10
2. Live in harmony with one another – Romans 12:16
3. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you – Romans 15:7
4. Serve one another humbly in love – Galatians 5:13
5. Carry each other's burdens – Galatians 6:2
6. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other – Ephesians 4:32
7. Teach and admonish one another with all wisdom – Colossians 3:16
8. Encourage one another and build each other up – 1 Thessalonians 5:11
9. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling – 1 Peter 4:9
10. Pray for one another – James 5:16

Discussion Questions

1. When you think about your own life, who first *taught* you about Jesus? Who *showed* you Jesus by how they lived?
2. Why do you think “showing” the character of God is often harder—and more powerful—than “teaching” about Him?
3. What role has the church community played in your own growth in faith? Can you think of a specific person or moment?
4. Hebrews calls us to “spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” What are some concrete examples of how we, as a church family, can “have each other's backs” in raising children in faith?
5. Of the “one another” commands listed (love, harmony, forgiveness, encouragement, hospitality, etc.), which one do you find most natural to live out? Which one do you struggle with?
6. How can being honest about our doubts, struggles, or failures actually strengthen a child's or newcomer's faith, rather than weaken it?