

Helping Others Change  
 Engaging God's People  
  
 GBI Session #2  
 September 7, 2014

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**The "One Anothers"**

- **Teach** one another (Col. 3:16)
- **Admonish** one another (Rom. 15:14 & Col. 3:16)
- **Build up** one another (Rom. 14:19 & I Thes. 5:11)
- **Speak truth** to one another (Eph. 4:25)
- **Comfort/encourage/exhort** one another (II Cor. 1:3-7; I Thes. 4:18; 5:11; Heb. 3:13; 10:25)

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**Helper/Comforter/Counselor**

- Jesus Christ
  - John 14:16; I John 2:1 (Advocate)
  - Greek = Paráklātos
- Holy Spirit
  - John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7
  - Greek = Paráklātos
- Encourage One Another
  - I Thes. 4:18; 5:11; Heb. 3:13; 10:25
  - Greek = Parakalēō

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### But I Don't Have the Gift!

- Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly ... he who exhorts, in his exhortation (Rom. 12:6-8)
- There are 20 spiritual gifts identified in the Bible and **12 are "one-anothers"** (60%)
- There are 14 non-sign & non-office gifts and **11 are "one-anothers"** (79%)
- Gifts of mercy, giving, helping, serving, etc.

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### So, How Is It Done?!

- Recognize that **YOU** are the tool God wants to use – your experience & your relationship
  - II Cor. 1:3-5
- Keep your eye on the goal – heart change, not circumstance change or someone else's change
  - Prov. 4:23
- Remember it is reciprocal – God wants your heart to change through the process as well
  - After all, it is a "one another"
- Follow Jesus' example

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### Incarnate the Love of Christ

- "God wants our relationships to be the context in which He does the ongoing work of change."
- God wants His dynamic love to flow through me (Rom. 5:5; I Cor. 13:4-8) not just feelings of "love". God may be challenging me to grow in His love.

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### Enter The Person's World

- Ask to hear his/her story
- Ask good questions (Handout)
- Actively listen (Handout)
  - In particular, listen for the role God plays in the story:
    - A brief walk-on part at conversion
    - Cameo appearances in times of trouble
    - The antagonist of the story
    - The main character of the story – the starring role

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### Identify with Suffering

- After empathetically and actively listening to his/her story, share a bit of yours.
  - We all suffer and struggle
  - Suffering is redemptive
  - Suffering may expose “the idols of the heart”
  - Suffering may expose unbiblical thinking
  - Suffering is purposeful – conforming us to the image of Christ
  - Suffering puts the spotlight on God

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### Accept with an Agenda

- Accept = Validate the eternal worth God has placed on the individual, that each of us is “a work in progress”, and that each of us is doing our best at the moment even though we could do better. Don't judge the person.
- Agenda = Seek growth in “putting off the old self” and “putting on the new self” (Eph. 4:17-32), and in being conformed to the image of Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:28-29)

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**So, How Do I Start?**

- In your current circle of relationships, ask one good question.
- In your home group, share one personal struggle.
- Let one brother/sister in Christ know that you are committed to his/her growth.
- Have one conversation about applying the Bible to “real life”.

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God has ***strategically*** placed us in our relationships to glorify Himself and to build up one another.

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