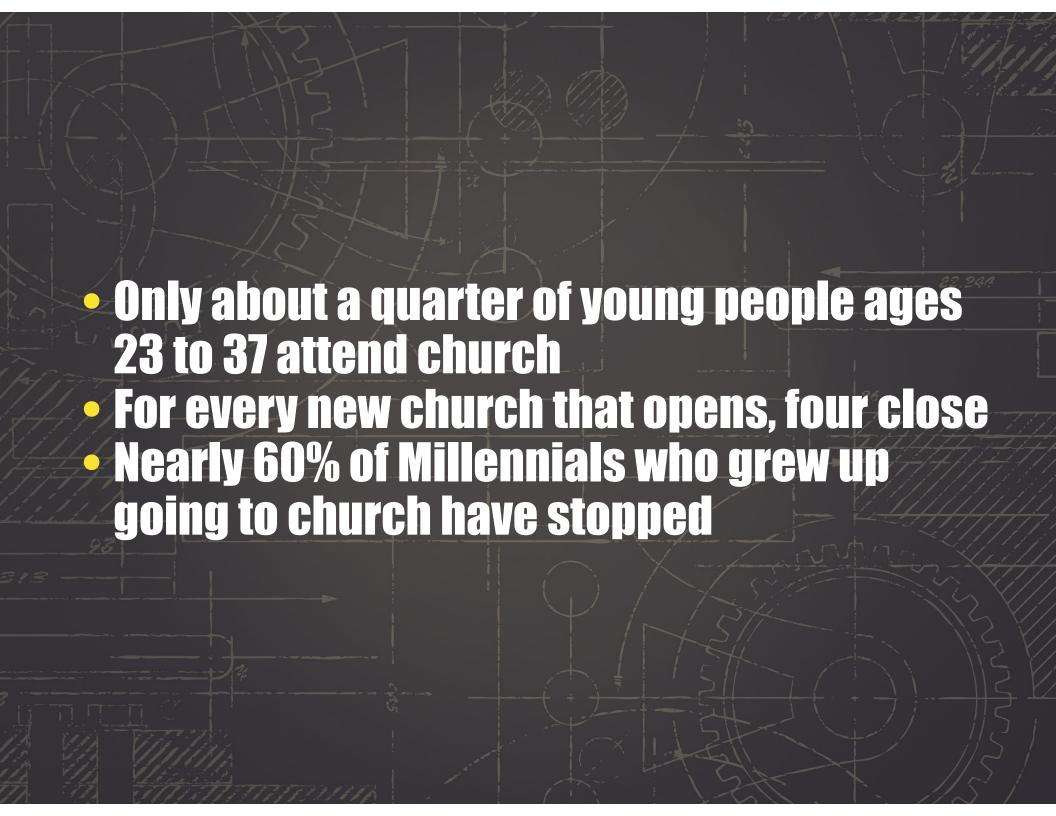
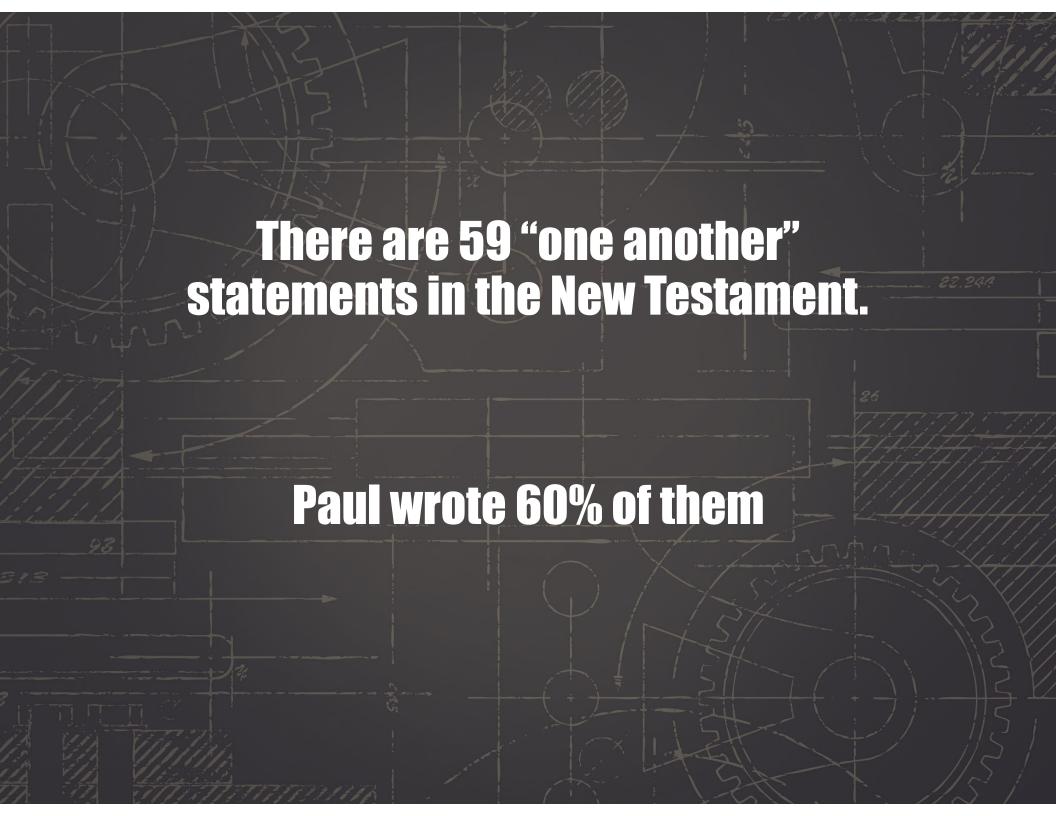


Authentic Fellowship, Karen Shephard

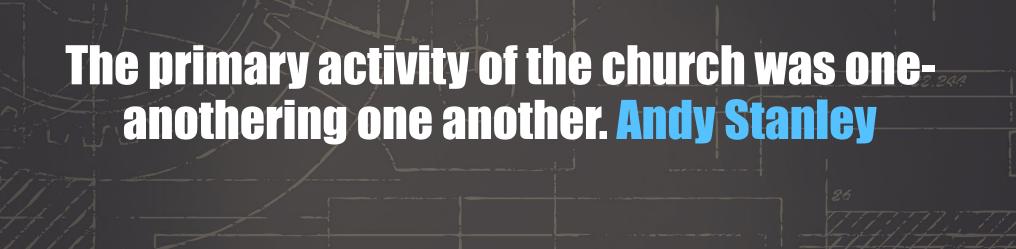
Many churches have a superficial idea (and experience) of community. Christian community is easily mistaken for mere cordiality, courtesy, or sociability. It easily becomes least-common-denominator "fellowship," not much different from the Kiwanis or a neighbourhood potluck. Often socalled Christian community is marked by nothing that is specifically Christian and nothing that challenges the values of surrounding pagan society.





The phrase "one another" is derived from the Greek word allelon which means "one another, each other; mutually, reciprocally." It occurs 100 times in the New Testament. Approximately 59 of those occurrences are specific commands teaching us how (and how not) to relate to one another. Obedience to those commands is imperative. It forms the basis for all true Christian community, and has a direct impact on our witness to the world

most of these passages imply behaviours, not just attitudes. The New Testament writers are less concerned with how believers feel about each other than they are about their actions—their living together as community and publicly as disciples. Sometimes we reverse this, focusing on attitudes but forgetting action. Karen Shephard



When everyone is sitting in rows...you can't one another

Unity, One Third

One third of the "one another" statements deal with the church getting along Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. James 4:11

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you Romans 15:7

bearing with one another in love. Ephesians 4:2

live in peace with each other Mark 9:50

Love, One Third

Another third is about loving sacrificially

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13

Be devoted to one another in love. Romans 12:10

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

Humility, Largest of the last third

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. John 13:14

Honour one another above yourselves. Romans 12:10

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, Philippians 2:3

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another 1 Peter 5:5

the action reaction starts with one

one person who believes that the "other" is valuable

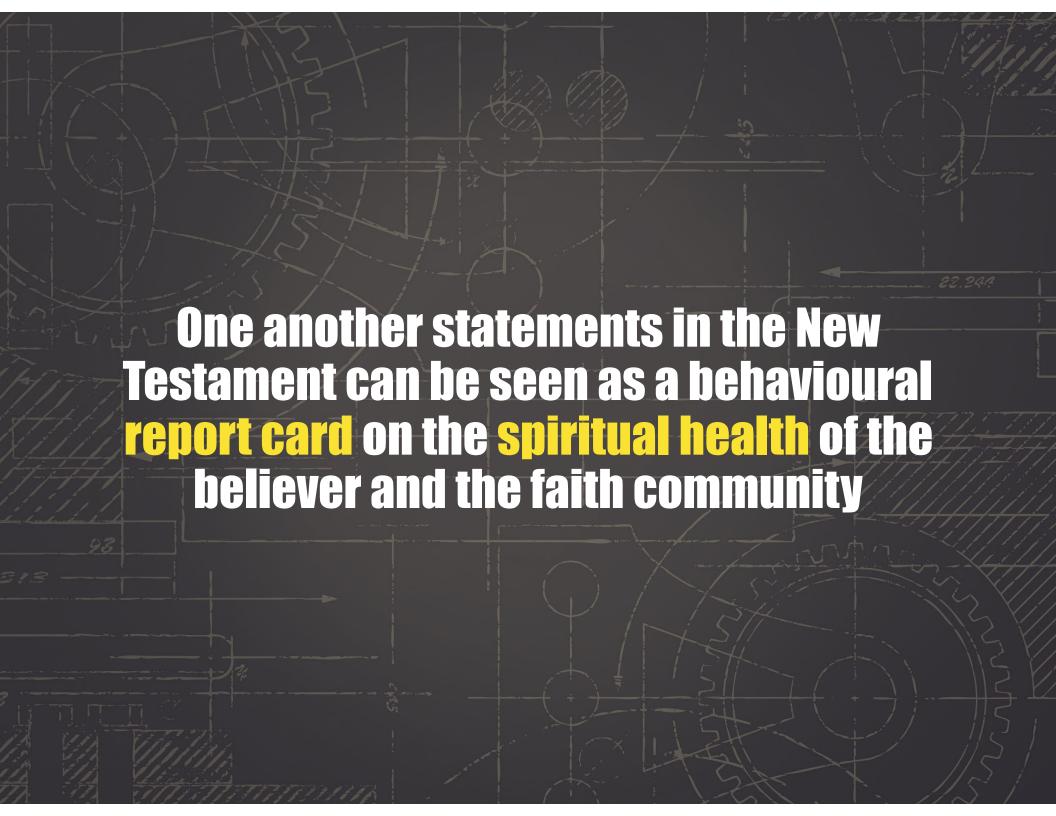
one

a person who doesn't see the cost (time, resources) as wasted in serving the other

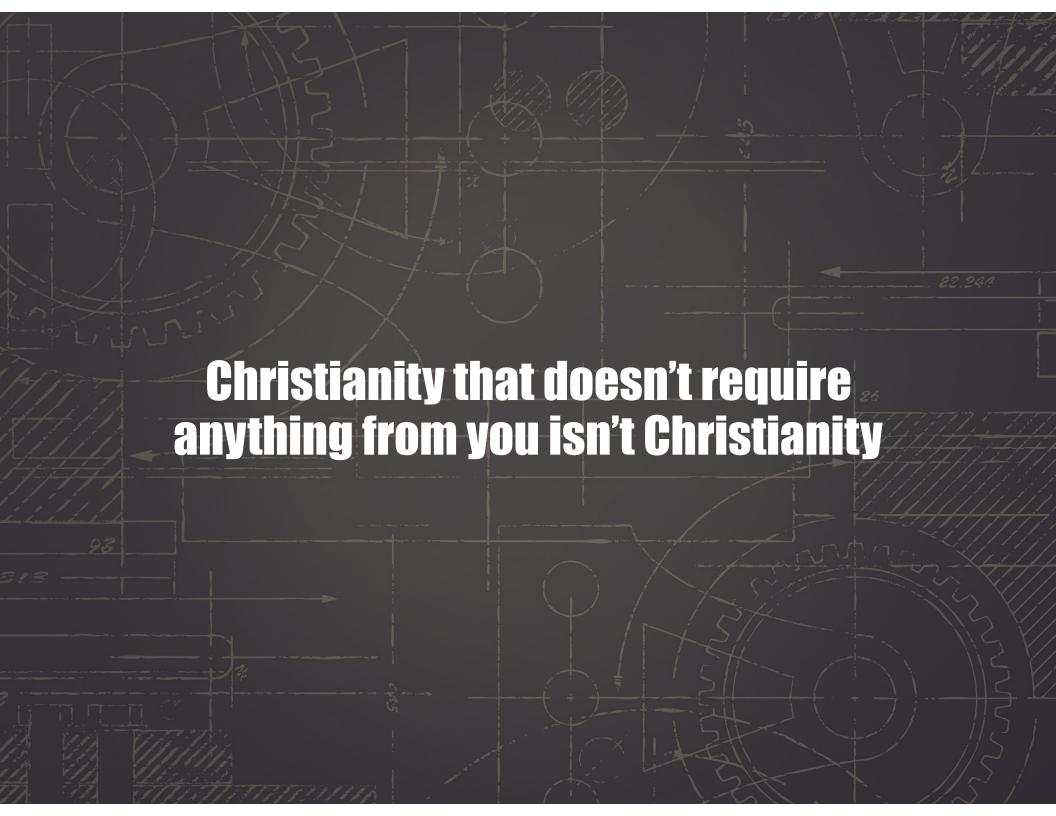
the "other" is anyone who has a need or is in need

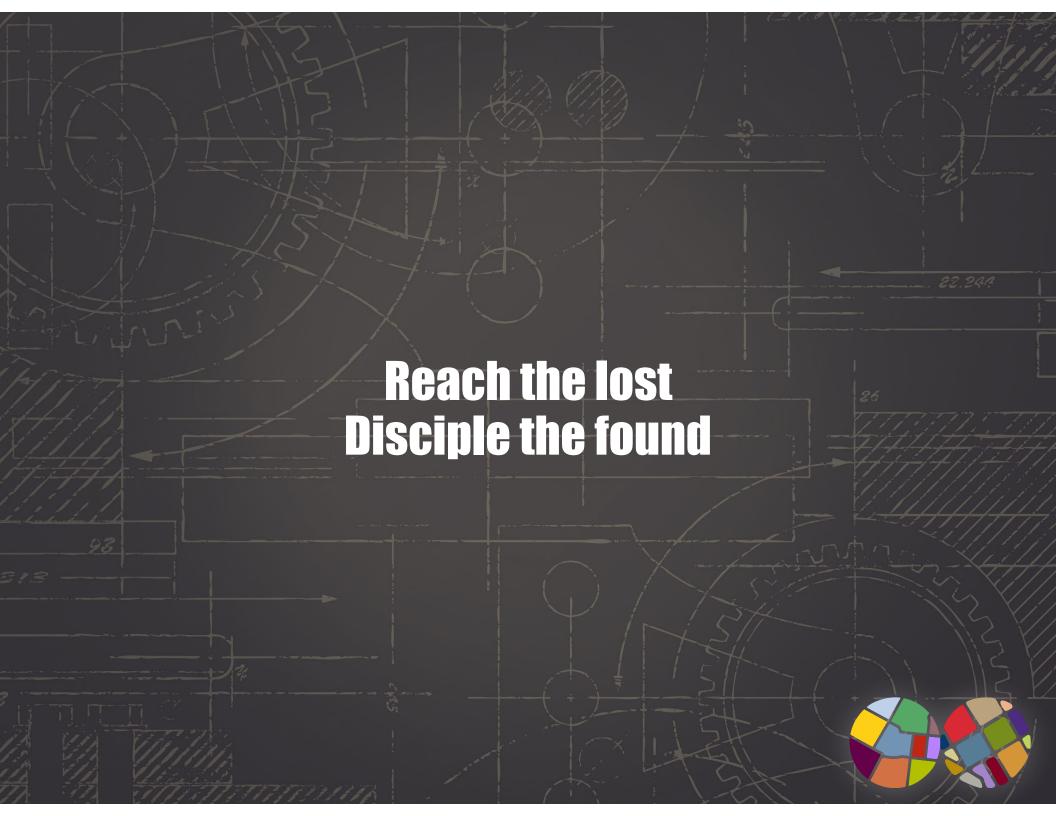
there is no payback but nother simply a surrender of ego to receive

the "other" is then catalyzed to seek out the source of the one



Implications of "One Anothering" One Anothering is not instant One Anothering speaks to value One Anothering has a cost





Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. 1 Peter 4:1-2