



bearing with one another
Colossians 3:13

Bear With One Another

Selected Scriptures

#13 in a series on the *One Another* Statements

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What Does It Mean?

1. The New Testament words.
(Matthew 8:17; 17:9; 20:12; Luke 14:27; Romans 11:18; 15:1; 1 Corinthians 4:12; 9:12; 13:7; Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13; 2 Timothy 4:3)
2. The inherent tension. (Romans 15:1-2 with Galatians 1:6-9; Revelation 2:1-3)

What Does It Look Like?

1. Some examples.
(2 Samuel 16:5-14; Nehemiah 9:26-31; Psalm 78:9-72, esp. 34-39, 68-72)
2. What not to bear with.
(1 Corinthians 1:10-13; 5:1-13; 6:1-8; 8:1-13; 11:17-22; Galatians 1:6-9; Revelation 2:1-3)
3. What to bear with. (Romans 14:1-23; 15:1-2, 7; Philippians 1:15-18)

What Does It Take?

1. A cluster of essential qualities. (Colossians 3:12)
2. A complimentary action. (Colossians 3:13)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. *Bear with one another.* Think about some of the pictures and emphases in the New Testament words for *bear* we looked at yesterday. Write out your own description of the word including the core meanings and pictures. Remember that to bear with, to put up with, to tolerate is not absolute to all behavior (we will review this tomorrow). Review your expectations of others and yourself. What areas and things in others pose the biggest challenges for you to bear with? Do you know why? Do you do things that irritate others and give them a challenge in bearing with you?

Tuesday. On Sunday we looked at two examples of bearing with someone—God bearing with Israel and David bearing with Shimei. Read the Bible references in the outline on this. How does Isaiah 1:14 fit in? Now think about what we are and are not to bear with, checking the Bible references. How do you sum up the differences?

Wednesday. There is a cluster of qualities in Colossians 3:12 that we need in order to bear with each other as we should. They are to characterize our heart, be at the core of who we are, our character. Walk through what compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience are. Now take a good look at yourself, evaluating the state of each of these qualities in your heart. Listen to God as He shows you where you need to grow in these qualities.

Thursday. Bearing with one another is an action that flows from the cluster of qualities we looked at yesterday. The next verse, Colossians 3:13, links bearing with one another with another action, forgiving each other. We considered forgiving one another four weeks ago. Why do you think these two actions are vitally linked? How have you been doing this week with bearing with and forgiving others?

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to begin a new series in the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. Read through the first 11 verses of chapter 1 as you prepare for our time of worship together.