

Better Together September 27 & 28, 2025

Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

All the believer's devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

10 Characteristics that Make us Better Together: • We are dedicated to teaching the _____. • We are engaged in intentional _____. • We are faithful to sharing ______ together. • We are powered by ______. • We are sacrificially ______ with everything we have. • We are bonded in _____. • We are defined by _____ and ____. • We are multiplying through _____. • We are reflecting a faithful ______ to the unbelievers. • We are devoted to _____ God. What I must do to ensure we are better together:

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

I must be a constant _____ to others.

Romans 12:9-10 (GNT)

Love must be completely sincere. Hate what is evil, hold on to what is good. Love one another warmly as Christians, and be eager to show respect for one another.

Remember and Rehearse:

When I take time to encourage someone, I am not just making them feel good – I'm helping them see themselves the way _____ sees them.

2 I must	others by serving with them.
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Acts 13:2-4 (NLT)

One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them." So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way. So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 16:25 (NLT)

Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening.

Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

Remember and Rehearse:

I am stronger when I _____ with others because I don't just carry my own burdens but I help carry yours while you help carry mine.

	I must	others up until we all live what we
J	believe.	

Ephesians 4:11-16 (TPT)

And he has appointed some with grace to be apostles, and some with grace to be prophets, and some with grace to be evangelists, and some with grace to be pastors, and some with grace to be teachers. And their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers to do their own works of ministry, and as they do this they will enlarge and build up the body of Christ. These grace ministries will function until we all attain oneness into the faith, until we all experience the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God, and finally we become one into a perfect man with the full dimensions of spiritual maturity and fully developed into the abundance of Christ. And then our immaturity will end! And we will not be easily shaken by trouble, nor led astray by novel teachings or by the false doctrines of deceivers who teach clever lies. But instead we will remain strong and always sincere in our love as we express the truth. All our direction and ministries will flow from Christ and lead us deeper into him, the anointed Head of his body, the church. For his "body" has been formed in his image and is closely joined together and constantly connected as one. And every member has been given divine gifts to contribute to the growth of all; and as these gifts operate effectively throughout the whole body, we are built up and made perfect in love.

Commitment Checklist

Take a personal inventory of your commitment at Grace and then make a decision to take the next step.

Inventory	Commitment
Have I taken all of the Membership Classes?	☐ Yes ☐ I will take the 101-401 by Jan. 2026
Am I attending church weekly?	☐ Yes ☐ I will attend church weekly
Am I in a small group?	☐ Yes ☐ I will join or lead a small group
Am I serving? (weekly, monthly, bi-monthly)	☐ Yes ☐ I will serve (weekly, monthly, bi-monthly)
Am I tithing 10% from every paycheck?	☐ Yes ☐ I will tithe 10% from every paycheck and set up automatic giving. www.gracechurchco.com/give

Scan here for next steps or visit www.shor.by/nextstepsgrace



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When I build others up, I become stronger and life becomes

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1	I must	in others with everything I've
4	been given.	

Matthew 25:37-40 (NIV)

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

2 Corinthians 8:3-4 (TPT)

For I can verify that they spontaneously gave, not only according to their means but far beyond what they could afford. They actually begged us for the privilege of sharing in this ministry of giving to God's holy people who are living in poverty.

Galatians 6:10 (NIV)

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

	giving through my church, I'm lying the impact beyond measure.		
I must remember in and through	are only better with Jesus living		
glory! This mystery of Christ,	who floods you with the expectation of embedded within us, becomes a heavenly vith the riches of glory for his people, and it!		
Colossians 3:14 (GW) Above all, be loving. This ties	everything together perfectly.		
Remember and Rehearse: When I encourage in Jesus	' name, there is truly and		



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10 Characteristics that Make us Better Together:

- We are dedicated to teaching the <u>Bible</u>.
- We are engaged in intentional <u>fellowship</u>.
- · We are faithful to sharing meals together.
- We are powered by <u>prayer</u>.
- We are sacrificially generous with everything we have.
- We are bonded in unity.
- We are defined by joy and grace.
- We are multiplying through <u>evangelism</u>.
- We are reflecting a faithful witness to the unbelievers.
- We are devoted to worshiping God.

What I must do to ensure we are better together:



I must be a constant encouragement to others.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Romans 12:9-10 (GNT)

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Remember and Rehearse:

When I take time to encourage someone, I am not just making them feel good – I'm helping them see themselves the way <u>God</u> sees them.



I must strengthen others by serving with them.

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Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

Remember and Rehearse:

I am stronger when I <u>serve</u> with others because I don't just carry my own burdens but I help carry yours while you help carry mine.



I must <u>build</u> others up until we all live what we believe.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (TPT)

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Remember and Rehearse:

When I build others up, I become stronger and life becomes enjoyable.



I must <u>invest</u> in others with everything I've been given.

Matthew 25:37-40 (NIV)

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

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Remember and Rehearse:

When I am generously giving through my church, I'm impacting everyone; multiplying the impact beyond measure.

5

I must remember <u>we</u> are only better with Jesus living in and through <u>me</u>.

Colossians 1:27 (TPT)

Living within you is the Christ who floods you with the expectation of glory! This mystery of Christ, embedded within us, becomes a heavenly treasure chest of hope filled with the riches of glory for his people, and God wants everyone to know it!

Colossians 3:14 (GW)

Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly.

Remember and Rehearse:

When I encourage in Jesus' name, there is truly $\underline{\text{hope}}$ and eternal love. I love with His love.