

# Receive One Another

"And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?" Matthew 5:47 (English Standard Version)

James 2:8,9 - Can we be \_\_\_\_\_ with our fellowship?

## The Challenges Of Reentering Society

- A. "Prison" in Latin is \_\_\_\_\_. In America, being placed in prison is the \_\_\_\_\_ we administer for crime.
- B. Challenges faced by those reentering society:
1. \_\_\_\_\_ relationships: Family and friends may have \_\_\_\_\_ or broken off all contact (with good reason?).
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ relationships: Some whose \_\_\_\_\_ is bad are all too \_\_\_\_\_ to reconnect.
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities for \_\_\_\_\_. One study found that only \_\_\_\_\_% of employers would consider hiring an ex-convict.
  4. Social \_\_\_\_\_ make it hard to feel accepted.
  5. For these and other reasons, recidivism is nationally around \_\_\_\_\_% (in Tennessee it's \_\_\_\_\_%). "\_\_\_\_\_ doors".
- C. But faith-based instruction helps \_\_\_\_\_ the rate of recidivism.

## When Christians Truly Receive One Another

- A. Acts 9:26-28; 11:25,26 - \_\_\_\_\_ knew how hard it could be to be \_\_\_\_\_ by Christians who were \_\_\_\_\_ of him.
- B. Christians are to receive one another:
1. Romans 15:1-7 - The \_\_\_\_\_ are to bear with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, for this is what \_\_\_\_\_ did for us. We are to \_\_\_\_\_ one another as Christ did us.
  2. Galatians 6:1,2 - Those who are \_\_\_\_\_ are called to \_\_\_\_\_ the one caught in any \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Matthew 5:46,47 - Are we any \_\_\_\_\_ from the world if we \_\_\_\_\_ only our brothers?
  4. Hebrews 13:1-3 - We must not \_\_\_\_\_ to show \_\_\_\_\_ to strangers; they may be \_\_\_\_\_!
- C. One prisoner wrote to \_\_\_\_\_ churches asking about their ministries when he was released. \_\_\_\_\_ responded to him.

The goal of NewLife Behavior Ministries (our ministry) is to \_\_\_\_\_ individuals to \_\_\_\_\_, their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, November 13, 2016, p.m.*