



“One for You, and One to Share”

An area of emphasis for teaching and preaching in the Commonwealth of Virginia during the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Honoring our heritage of hospitality and civility, we pass this rubric on to those generations yet to come; that all our children may be fed and nourished so they may grow strong in wisdom and favor before God.

*If any household is too small for a whole lamb,
they must share one with their nearest neighbor (Exodus 12:4)*

Each year 300,000 Virginia children who come to school not only to learn, but first to eat. Feeding these children so that they can learn may well be the civil rights issue of today. What if we changed our culture by teaching the next generation an ancient biblical value: the duty to share your bounty with others? ***One for You, and One to Share.*** What does this mean?

*The generous will themselves be blessed,
for they share their food with the poor. (Proverbs 22:9)*

For Parents: Every time you pack a lunch, include two of something. Two cookies, or two carrots, or two Snickers bars. If this is a burden for you, then simply cut things in half: apples, sandwiches, muffins, or bagels for example. Send your kids to school each day with the admonition: ***One for You, and One to Share.*** Then ask them about their sharing experience at the dinner table.

For Teachers: Set up a “swap box” in every classroom. Encourage children to share their meals with others one-on-one, but if they have no one to share with, invite them to share one item from their meals by putting it in the swap box in exchange for another item. Set the example by making your own daily contribution to the box. ***One for You, and One to Share.***

For Pastors: At every opportunity emphasize the importance of sharing that which is entrusted to your care. Loving your neighbor as yourself means that half of all your blessings should be used for the well-being of your neighbors in the community and throughout the world. Reinforce the ***One for You, and One to Share*** concept for parents, children, and teachers.

For Pediatricians and others throughout the Commonwealth: Whenever you give something to a child, emphasize their duty to share the gift with their sisters and brothers and friends. If it’s a lollipop or a gummy vitamin, make it two; if it’s a health tip or a preventative measure then encourage them to teach someone about that; if it’s a book or a story, encourage kids to share such a gift with others. ***One for You, and One to Share.***

*All the believers were one in heart and mind.
No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own,
but they shared everything they had. (Acts 4:32)*