

12 Seeds Growing in Love is a series published by 12 Seeds International, Inc. 1515 E. 66th St., Mpls., MN 55423

Purpose: to help followers of Christ obey His command, recorded in John 13:34: "Love one another."

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Please pray: for the families, friends, teammates, students, military personnel, inmates, released offenders, recovering addicts, and others who are striving to increasingly practice the 12 Seeds in their daily living with the Lord and with others.

Synergy

There's a fictional story about people in the next life who are unable to bend their arms at their elbows.

This may not sound significant, since it's easy to take elbows for granted. But not being able to bend one's arm at the elbow makes a task such as eating a real challenge.

In the story, each person was required to sit in a chair. Plates of food were in the center of the table at arm's distance away. Each person could reach the food, but had to remain seated.

In hell, the people were all struggling to eat. Since they couldn't bend their arms at their elbows, they couldn't bring the food to their mouths. They were eternally hungry.

In heaven, the people were feeding one another.

How much do you know about . . .

SYNERGY

Select the best answer:

1. A brief working definition for synergy is: "_____ and teamwork."
a. fun b. cooperation c. joy d. synonyms
2. The first part of the word synergy, *syn*, means: a. sinful b. bad c. same d. great
3. The second part of the word synergy is from the Greek *ergon*, meaning:
a. strength b. idea c. concept d. energy
4. Industrialist Charles P. McCormick said, "Two people working as a _____ will produce more than three working as individuals." a. singing group b. team c. clown act d. rock band

Answers on other side.



SYNERGY

COOPERATION AND TEAMWORK

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

– I Corinthians 12:27

Synergy is the beautiful phenomenon that occurs when people working together in harmony perform and achieve far beyond what they would attain working separately. Synergy helps fill the human need to work together.

Cooperate with others!

www.12seeds.com

A PRAYER

Dear Lord, thank You for the privilege of working together with You and with others. Please help me to cooperate well, in order to bring glory to You and blessings to others. In Your Name I pray, Amen.

The 12 Seeds are Biblically based relationship principles that are lived out through five habits in order to love others. All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Consider these verses . . .

- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
- I Corinthians 12:4-31
- Galatians 6:2,10
- Ephesians 4:1-7

Consider these questions . . .

- How is cooperating with others a way to love them?
- Does cooperating with others help a relationship grow? Why or why not?
- What could you do to work more cooperatively with the Lord? With others?
- What will you do?

Answers to quiz on side 1:

- 1. b 2. c 3. d 4. b

Next issue . . . HOPE

- Positive Expectations
- What need does hope help fill?