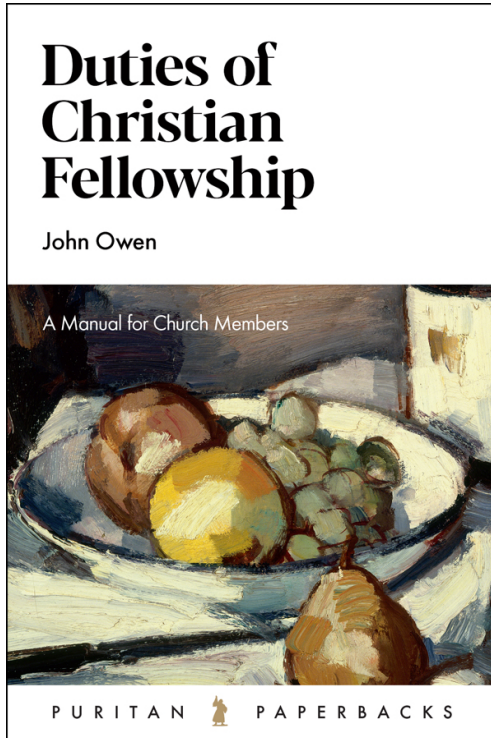


John Owen (1616-1683) was a prolific Puritan writer. In this book, he plainly puts forward what are the responsibilities of the household of God to the various members of the church. It is a tremendously helpful book that offers a general overview of how God requires his children to live with one another.

As we have discussed at length recently in our series on missions and ecclesiology, it is my prayer that this book would further clarify what we must commit ourselves to within the body for the sake of God's glory as we endeavor to fulfill Christ's Great Commission.

— Omri Miles, Pastor/Elder



Suggested One-Month Reading Plan
(3-4 pages per day)

Week 1: Monday, August 2nd - Sunday, August 8th

Page 7 - Suggestions for the Use of This Book
Page 9 - Forward
Page 11 - Section 1
(rules for the sheep to the pastors)

Week 2: Monday, August 9th - Sunday, August 15th

Section 2
(rules for the sheep to other sheep)
Pages 31 — 55: Rules 1 - 6

Week 3: Monday, August 16th - Sunday, August 22nd

Pages 55 — 78: Rules 7 - 11

Week 4: Monday, August 23 - Sunday, August 29

Pages 79 — 95: Rules 12 - 15

QUOTES

“Men grow tired of hearing the word only after they have grown tired of putting it into practice.” (18)

“As the temptations experienced by pastors increase, so must the prayers on their behalf.” (21)

“Love is the fountain of all duties towards God and man,... the basis of all rules that concern the saints, the bond of communion, the ‘fulfilling of the law’...the advancement of the honour of the Lord Jesus, and the glory of the gospel... It is the fountain, rule, scope, aim, and fruit of gospel communion.” (34)

“Someone who will not separate from the world and from false worship has separated himself from Christ.” (49)

“We will value the ordinances that we enjoy according to the degree of knowledge of them that we possess. A man will not contend unless he knows what he is fighting for.” (41)

“It is obvious that every person should make every effort to contribute to the culture and knowledge of his or her family. But it is just as obvious that we should labour to do so in the church also, the family of God.” (53)

“Examples are a more convincing way of instruction than precepts. Loose living, which causes the name of God to be blasphemed, the little ones of Christ to be offended, and his enemies to rejoice, results in the most miserable of sorrows.” (93)