One Flesh

The meaning of *one flesh* has a natural interpretation intended by scripture to allow one to receive a more palatable definition than that intended. Most cannot accept the ultimate meaning so the Lord gives a message in such a way that those who cannot see will grab on to the literal meaning rather than the allegorical intent. There a few references that hint of a greater meaning than when term *one* is used.

[Doctrine and Covenants 35:2](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/35.2?lang=eng" \l "1)

I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was crucified for the sins of the world, even as many as will believe on my name, that they may become the sons of God, even one in me as I am one in the Father, as the Father is one in me, that we may be one.

The term is used four times and gives a nebulous meaning to most. If taken literally we thing Christ and God are one person as commonly expressed as, *“The Father and I are one” (*[*Doctrine and Covenants 50:43*](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/50.43?lang=eng#42)*,* [*Doctrine and Covenants 93:3*](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/93.3?lang=eng#2)*,* [*3 Nephi 11:27*](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/bofm/3-ne/11.27?lang=eng#26)*, [3 Nephi 20:35](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/bofm/3-ne/20.35?lang=eng" \l "34),* [*3 Nephi 28:10*](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/bofm/3-ne/28.10?lang=eng#9) *).* So what does this mean?

[John 17:22](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/john/17.22?lang=eng#21)

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

John refers to them as the deciples if not those that fallow Christ. This means we are to all be one as Christ is with God. This is also indicated in:

[Doctrine and Covenants 35:2](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/35.2?lang=eng#1)

I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was crucified for the sins of the world, even as many as will believe on my name, that they may become the sons of God, even one in me as I am one in the Father, as the Father is one in me, that we may be one.

Tradition has taught us that this oneness is a spiritual concept of thinking alike or being in agreements. We are told that the meaning of *atonement* is *at-one-ment*. Even this is more nebulous than being at one with the universe, more properly thought of as to go with the flow and not resist the laws of the universe. All this is beautiful to us until we seek for a deeper understanding. Jacob expressed *one* to be *equal.*

[Jacob 5:74](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/bofm/jacob/5.74?lang=eng#73)

And thus they labored, with all diligence, according to the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, even until the bad had been cast away out of the vineyard, and the Lord had preserved unto himself that the trees had become again the natural fruit; and they became like unto one body; and the fruits were equal; and the Lord of the vineyard had preserved unto himself the natural fruit, which was most precious unto him from the beginning.

The above is a prophecy about the house of Israel as fruit of a tree. As one body they become equal. The intention of the Lord was to bring this to pass in:

[Doctrine and Covenants 45:65](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/45.65?lang=eng#64)

And with one heart and with one mind, gather up your riches that ye may purchase an inheritance which shall hereafter be appointed unto you.

Here the Lord associates specifically one mind with the gathering up of riches.

[Doctrine and Covenants 51:8-9](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/51.9?lang=eng#8)

And the money which is left unto this people—let there be an agent appointed unto this people, to take the moneyto provide food and raiment, according to the wants of this people.

And let every man deal honestly, and be alike among this people, and receive alike, that ye may be one, even as I have commanded you.

If one were to try and search on ling for the above by entering in a search for “may be one” they will not find it. The reason is probably due to the wording as *may be bone.* The subscript refers to a Topical Guide footnote Unity. Out of all the D&C references to *one* unity is not associated. Because of it is associated to “receive alike” the one writing the notes did not like that association so he used “unity”. That is the problem with Mormon tradition. It thinks one means unity rather than equality.

The entire world cannot be one as in “equal” for this destroys the traditional concept of all being “unified” as one in Christ. One in the above pertains to one church or community where all are alike. This narrows the meaning of one to a smaller concept of economy—meaning equal. Every number from one to ten has a spiritual counterpart based on the mathematics of that number. Anything divided by its equal is “one” yielding that God, Christ, and the Holy Ghost are equal horizontally in both temporal and spiritual terms. A vertical leadership does not exist. The three are one.

We can now turn to the word *flesh.*

[Galatians 5:16-26](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/gal/5.16?lang=eng#15)

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told youin time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh along with the affections and lusts.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Paul gives us an exhalent expression of the terms *lust of the flesh*. The things of the spirit are against the things of the flesh. Paul also gives us the works of the flesh. We tend only to think of adulatory and fornication, and neglect*, idolatry, variance, envyings,* and *strife—*all of which come form the lust for temporal things. There is also a lust for *lasciviousness—*and many other false traditions that justify our acts by pointing only to sexual lusts.I am always fascinated by how advertising, especially cars, associates sex with the desire for a nice new car symbolizing power and independence from responsibility. That is because lust of any type comes from the same fear of rejection in life and entropy in death—something that in mortality we need to overcome before we can become one. We must crucify all things of the flesh *along* with lustful affections. I added the word *along* to clarify the intended meaning. This would be an easy omission in the translation. The closest Greek word means downwards. I do not think the translators could see that Paul meant a downward expression so they perhaps just left it out.

[Mark 10:8](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/mark/10.8?lang=eng#7)

And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.

[Genesis 2:24](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/ot/gen/2.24?lang=eng#23)

Therefore shall a man leave his father and hismother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

The first reference is only found online. The second does not show searching for “one flesh” even that both are at the end without a subscript. One is lefte to wonder about searching on the Church’s web site. I have to keep going to the windows download of softwhere to get everything including Genesis. I know something is missing because of spending far too long trying a web search.

Now ever religious person with interpret the above to mean sextually one. That is all right for the carnal mind, but to the spiritual mind he interprets *one flesh* to mean *equality im earthly things.* Though most will also accept this interpretation, they will not accept equality as to a community, thus scripture is hidden in allegory so the physical minded will see what they can see and will not see what is intended for all of us to eventually see. “He who has eyes to see will see.”