

ONE LORD, ONE LOVE, ONE LIFE
by Justin Street

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

"Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do..."

CHARACTERS

ONE

TWO

THREE

FOUR

FIVE

PART I:
ONE LORD

The scene starts with all characters entering and lining up across DS, ONE through FIVE, SL to SR, THREE is CS. They each begin confidently:

We have one Lord!

THREE

One Lord!

ONE

One Lord!

FOUR

Lord: noun. Someone or something having power, authority and influence.

FIVE

A master or a ruler.

TWO

There is but one Lord!

THREE

One Lord!

FOUR

And that is Christ Jesus!

FIVE

Christ Jesus. Who has full authority over my life.

TWO

Full authority!

THREE

They each stand there for a couple of beats, staring confidently into the middle distance.

THREE
(hesitates)

And maybe... also, facebook? Sometimes?

FIVE

Oh, yea. I don't think I can go an hour without checking facebook.

ONE

Oh, me neither. And if something happens, and it's not on Facebook - did it really happen?

TWO

You can't prove it. How else will people know all the wonderful things that are happening to me if I don't share them with super awesome selfies, every day, every minute?

FOUR

And how will I know what exciting things I'm missing out on if I'm not on there, forty times a day,
(they ALL begin to mime scrolling down a screen)
scrolling through my feed as envy begins to take over my heart...

THREE

And the fear of missing out starts to fill you with anxiety and inescapable loneliness?

FOUR

You too?

THREE

Oh yea.

ONE

Speaking of anxiety and loneliness, you know, my moods tend to have a pretty big influence.

TWO

Oh, I know what you mean. If I'm not in a good mood, I'm not entirely sure that I need to be kind to you.

FIVE

Oh, and if I get hangry - forget about it.

ONE

Hangry?

FIVE

When hungry meets angry...

FIVE, FOUR, THREE & TWO

Hangry!

FOUR

Yep. How can I be expected to treat anyone like I'd like to be treated, when I really need to be treated to something to eat?

THREE

MmHm. Speaking of - what if you treat me bad first? Well, I guess that's how you want to be treated too, cause that's what you're going to get.

FIVE

Don't have a choice, really. You set the rules.

FOUR

Play stupid games, win stupid prizes, know what I mean?

TWO

So my circumstances are going to play a big part in my interactions with you - just so you know.

THREE

Oh, a big part. And don't forget about living a comparative lifestyle, judging every element of my life next to my own poor perception of the lives of others.

ONE

Am I doing better, am I doing worse?

FOUR

Do I have more likes, do I have fewer likes?

FIVE

Am I more attractive, less attractive?

TWO

Do I have more friends, fewer friends?

ONE

All of that will have a pretty big say as well. How else will I know who I am if I'm not measuring myself to everyone else?

THREE

So that will have to have some influence over me, for sure.

FIVE

So we have several lords!

FOUR

Wait, what? No!

FIVE

Huh?

What's wrong with you? ONE

What? FIVE

You can't say that. TWO

Yea, don't say that. THREE

But didn't we just say a bunch of things that have influence over us, and rule us in some way? FIVE

Maybe, I don't know. But you just can't say that. FOUR

Okay, then. One lord? FIVE

ONE, TWO, THREE & FOUR
(loud, but a little uneasily)

One lord!

lights out.

PART II:
ONE LOVE

All characters enter and take the same positions across the front of the stage. They start with the same enthusiasm that they started the first script with, except for FIVE, who is a little dubious.

We have one love!	THREE
One love!	ONE
One love!	FOUR
There is one love that is most important in my life.	TWO
And the rest of my life flows out from that great love.	FIVE
It is the source of my identity and the driving force in my every move.	THREE
My love for God.	TWO
My creator.	FOUR
Author and perfecter of my faith.	ONE
Wonderful. Counselor.	FIVE
I am lead daily by the love I have for the Lord, and it is my one true love!	THREE
One love!	ONE
One love!	FOUR
The one love that matters most!	TWO

They hold the same confident pose, staring again into the middle distance - except for FIVE who is sensing something coming. FIVE looks at the others, who after a couple of beats start to look a little antsy.

FIVE

Go on.

TWO

It's just that if I really think about it, you know what I really love? The approval of others.

ONE, THREE, FOUR all nod in agreement.

THREE

Yea. Is there really anything better than someone affirming that what you're doing is okay by them?

ONE

After you've tried so hard to fit in or be noticed, and then it *finally* pays off!

FOUR

So good. Or when someone just likes what you do, (*inspiration strikes*) or (*mimes smartphone again*) *likes* something you posted! I love that.

FIVE

Wait, you *love* that?

FOUR

Oh, I really do. Instant gratification.

THREE

Ooh, instant gratification! I love instant gratification!

ONE

Who doesn't?

They look at FIVE, who isn't joining them in the reverie.

FIVE

I think everyone does. It's kind of a problem.

cutting FIVE off

ONE

Sure, I could take time and put in effort and develop patience, but why would I when quick and easy is an option, and I want what I want three seconds ago.

THREE

So three seconds ago. Love it.

ONE, TWO, & FOUR

Love it!

FOUR

You know what I love? Big, bright, beautiful shiny new things! Love them.

ONE, TWO & FOUR

Love them!

FOUR

I love being able to get them. I love how they make me feel

TWO

I love how other people look at me when I have them. How if we have the same things we're part of a club or something.

THREE

Or if I'm the only one, how special it makes me feel. Especially if I got it first.

FIVE

So you *love* that?

THREE

It makes me feel better.

ONE

I love feeling better. I really love feeling better than! Like, if things are going really well for me - I love that.

FIVE

Wait, you like feeling better than other people - why can't you just be happy if things are going well for you?

TWO

Have you been out there?! It is competitive. If you're not doing better than others, then you're probably doing worse. I love feeling like I'm doing pretty good, you know, compared to some.

FIVE

Well, I'm feeling a lot of loves here.

THREE

I think you mean, "a lot of love here."

FIVE

No, I mean a lot of loves. Plural. More than one.

FOUR

Isn't more love a good thing?

FIVE

But we started saying *one* love, which turned into several. Just like when we went from one lord, which turned into several.

ONE, TWO, THREE & FOUR start to protest.

TWO

No, no - I still have that love.

FOUR

Yea, me too!

ONE

(inviting the others)

One love?

ONE, TWO, THREE & FOUR

One love!

FIVE

Seriously?

lights out

PART III:
ONE LIFE

All characters enter and take the same positions across the front of the stage. Everyone seems a little bothered, tired. All except FIVE are trying to go through the motions. FIVE isn't participating at all, but is standing - thinking.

We have one Lord.	THREE
One lord.	ONE
One lord.	FOUR
Is that really true?	TWO
Come one. Don't start that now.	THREE
But what about all that other stuff? That other stuff that matters to us so much?	TWO
Is it a lord, it just... I don't know...	THREE
Has power, authority and influence over us?	TWO
Yea, Er, no! I don't know. We have one love!	THREE
One love.	ONE
One love... I guess.	FOUR
<i>(boldly, but not in anger)</i> We have one life!	FIVE
What?	FOUR
We have one life. That's it. We get the one, and that's all we get. And that's all we can give.	FIVE

THREE

So?

TWO

So if we only have one life, why try to split it up on so many loves?

ONE

But I do love a lot of things.

FIVE

Yea, but what's your *first* love? Second Corinthians says "Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do." So out of that love, we'll know how to love anything else.

FOUR

With my one life, what is my one love?

ONE

And I suppose it's the same with lords too.

FIVE

I'm pretty sure you can only have one lord.

TWO

One someone or something having power, authority and influence.

ONE

One master or ruler.

THREE

But there is so much out there that's desperately trying to shape our lives. How do we deal with all of that?

TWO

Yeah, how do we deal?

FOUR

If his love has the first and last word in everything we do - we'll know.

ONE

The first and last word - that sounds like we have our lord. Master and ruler.

FIVE

If that's who we give our one life - yea.

THREE

Sounds like it.

One lord. Actually, just one lord!

THREE

One lord.

ONE

One lord.

FOUR

One love. Really, one love.

TWO

One love.

ONE

One love.

FOUR

One life.

FIVE

One lord.
One love.
One life.

ALL

lights out.