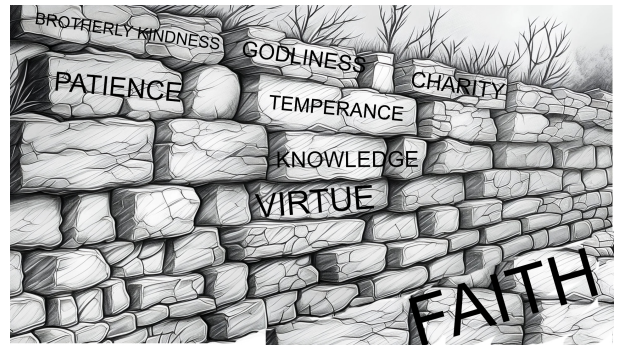


Add To Your Faith - L8 – “Living With Brotherly Kindness”

Introduction - We are on the narrow road — so to speak—heading toward the end of this series. We can look at this list in **2 Peter 1** and see all of the areas that we must increase in in the Christian life. Next in this list is the second-to-last area, which is the area of **brotherly kindness**. We will begin by looking at one verse in **Romans 12** to introduce this subject and have a moment of prayer. **Romans chapter 12**



gives us a very practical list of Christian living. In the tenth verse, we see this matter of brotherly love (kindness – φιλαδελφία *philadelphia*) mentioned.

Romans 12:10 “10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with **brotherly love**; in honour preferring one another;”

I. It's _____

When we receive Christ as our Savior, one of the amazing things that takes place is that we become part of the most wonderful family **that is in heaven and on earth**.

Ephesians 3:14–15 “14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 Of whom **the whole family in heaven and earth is named**,”

We notice in this passage that we are speaking about those who are part **of the family of God**. The word ‘brethren’ in **Galatians 6** means we are part of a family. And in the New Testament epistles, we are dealing with Christians.

In **verse 10 of Galatians 6**, Paul concludes, “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good **unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith**.”

We are to do good to all men, but the Bible says especially to those who are of the household of faith. In fact, this chapter is dealing primarily with our relationships to one another. Three times in the Word of God, we find the admonishment that we are to love one another.

1 John 3:11 “11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.”

1 John 3:23 “23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.”

1 John 4:11 “11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

II. It's _____

I like this statement, “There is not better way to learn to love, than to follow the example of the One who is Love. (1 John 4:8)”

A. Like The _____

John 15:9 “9 *As **the Father** hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.*”

There is a chain of love mentioned in this verse. This chain of love presents first the love of the Father toward the Lord Jesus Christ. Then we understand that the Lord Jesus demonstrated His love toward the disciples.

B. Like The _____

Jesus Christ’s love for us:

Is an eternal love. Is a perfect love. Is an unconditional love. Is a demonstrated love.

1. Without _____

The word dissimulation means to be false or fake.

Romans 12:9 “9 *Let love **be without dissimulation**. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.*”

The motivation of this brotherly love and kindness is not based on the merits of the ones whom you are to love. It is based on our love for Christ and our being part of the family of God. It is possible, by the Spirit of God in our hearts and lives, to love one another as we should.

1 Peter 1:22 “22 *Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*”

2. With _____

Love is a choice and an action.

1 John 3:18 “18 *My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; **but in deed and in truth.***” Our kind actions be according to truth.

3. With _____

There should be an increasing depth to the kindness and love that we show the brethren as we grow in Christ Jesus. In other words, until our kindness and love is the depth and breadth and height of God’s kindness and love—we have further to go.

1 Thessalonians 4:9–10 “9 *But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. 10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, **that ye increase more and more;***”

III. It's _____

The source of our actions is rooted in our love for Christ.

John 13:34 *“34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; **as I have loved you**, that ye also love one another.”*

John 15:12 *“12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, **as I have loved you**.”*

John 15:17 *“17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.”*

2 John 5 *“5 And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.”*

IV. It's _____

One of the highest privileges that God gives us in this world is to represent Him.

A. Reveals _____

Brotherly kindness reveals to others that we are a child of God.

1 John 3:14 *“14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, **because we love the brethren**. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”*

1 John 4:7 *“7 Beloved, **let us love one another**: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.”*

B. Reveals _____

If a Christian loves the brethren, it is also a proof that He loves God. **1 John 4:20** *“20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?”*

C. Reveal A _____ With God

1 John 2:9–11 *“9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. 10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. 11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”*

A child of God cannot be truly right with God and not have a love for God's people. Those who have trusted in Christ are our brothers and sisters in Christ. What is the value of the souls of men? We understand it is the infinite price of the Lord Jesus Christ— who gave Himself for us. It should be the desire of every believer to increase in love towards his fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. In **Hebrews 13:1** we read, *“1 Let brotherly love continue.”* May each of us continue to add brotherly love to our faith!