**Things you need – Brotherly love**

**2 Pet. 1:5 -8**

**Focal Truth: Every believer needs to practice brotherly love toward all God’s people**

**Observations**

1. The believer is useful and fruitful in practicing brotherly love – 1:7- 8

*in your godliness, brotherly kindness…for if these things qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless not unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*

**brotherly kindness = family love or affections**

**The word describes the love & affections present in a family toward each other.**

**Believers practice family love & care for all of God’s people like they do their own family**

1. The practice of brotherly love is unhypocritical love for all God’s people – 1 Pet. 1:22

*Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart*

1. The obedient & pure believer unhypocritically loves God’s people
2. Rom12:9 – Let love be without hypocrisy.
3. James 3:17 – the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gently, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy
4. The practice of brotherly love is warm hearted love for all God’s people – 1 Pet. 1:22

*Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart*

1. Fervent = stretched out, intent, earnest
2. 1 Pet. 4:8 – above all, keep fervent in your love for one another because love covers a multitude of sins
3. The practice of brotherly love is brotherly care – 1 Pet. 3:8

*to sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit*

1. Brotherly = a loving brother or sister
2. 1 Pet. 2:17 – love the brotherhood
3. The practice of brotherly love is devotion & preferential to all of God’s people – Rom 12:10

*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love, give preference to one another in honor*

1. Devoted = the mutual love of parents for children & husbands and wives – tenderness
2. Preference = to go before, allow others to go first…
3. Ps. 15:4 – who honors those who fear the Lord
4. The practice of brotherly love is unending for all God’s people – Heb. 13:1

*let love of the brethren continue…*

1. Continuing in love of God’s people is a duty for all God’s people
2. The believer learns brotherly love from God – 1 Thess. 4:9

*now as to love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another*

1. Eph. 5:1 – be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma
2. Brotherly love is a mark of salvation – 1 John 3:14

*We know we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death*

1. 1 John 2:9 – the one who says he is in the Light yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now
2. 1 John 4:20 - If someone says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar, for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen

**Things to remember**

1. The best way to discern grace in yourself is to love grace in others.
2. Faith knits us to God and love knits us one to another.
3. The bond of the Spirit among Christians is greater than the bond of blood in families.
4. Brotherly love is love for God’s saints.
5. Brotherly love is admiration for God’s work in your brother!
6. The brother in Christ’s, relation to Christ makes you love him all the more!
7. Those who one day will live together in glory should love together in this world.
8. God’s brings His people together in afflictions that they may be together in their affections for each other.
9. The flowers of grace will not grow in a hateful, unloving heart.
10. The spirit of prayer is silenced where brotherly strife exists.

**Daily Use**

1. Do I love all of God’s people or just some of God’s people?
2. Am I practicing hypocritical, man – showing love for God’s people?
3. Why don’t I love all of God’s people?
4. Do I have a warm heart of love for all of God’s people?
5. Am I devoted in loving God’s people regardless of their actions?
6. Do I need to repent of my inconsistent love for all God’s people?