

“Genuine Love that Helps Like Family and Practices Mutual Honor”

Romans 12:13, 15-16

July 17, 2022

I. Family Love that Meets the Needs of Other Believers (12:13)

A. We are to contribute to the meeting of one another’s needs when necessary. (true life needs, not all wants)

1. Literal Christian families should meet the needs of their members before expecting other believers to do so.

1 Timothy 5:8 - But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

2. The needs of fellow believers should be given our priority before charity outside the church.

Galatians 6:10 - So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

B. We are to show hospitality to one another.

1. Providing lodging when necessary... (1 Peter 4:9, 1 Tim. 3:2, Hebrews 13:2, 2 John, etc.)
2. But believers shouldn’t presume upon the hospitality of another without contributing.

2 Thessalonians 3:10b – if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.

II. Family Loves Honors One Another with Sympathy and Esteem (12:15-16)

A. We should truly enter into the joys and sorrows of others. (v. 15)

1. Forgetting our own, at least for the moment...
2. Regarding the happiness and sadness of our fellow saints as more important than ours...



B. We should honor one another even in disagreement. (v. 16)

1. Living in harmony despite differing views on non-essentials...
2. Not becoming proud and aloof due to our own beliefs and convictions...
3. Remaining open to correction from our fellow Christians...

III. Loving One Another Like this Glorifies the Lord

A. Jesus loves *us* this way.

1. He meets all our needs and then some.
2. He will share His eternal home with us.
3. He honors us by making a point to sympathize with us.

Hebrews 4:14–16 - ¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

4. He honors us with His presence, despite our true errors in countless arenas.

B. Remembering the genuine family love Christ has for us enables us to love His people in a similar way.