

Brotherly Kindness

Brotherly Kindness: The love of Christ for us demonstrated toward all those around us.

“to godliness **brotherly kindness**” (2 Peter 1:7).

“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10).

“All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify. Let no one seek his own, but each one the other’s well-being” (1 Corinthians 10:23, 24).

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord. Therefore, ‘If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Romans 12:9-21).

“The strengthening of our love for our brethren and sisters strengthens our love for Christ. This principle of love for God and for those for whom Christ died, needs to be quickened by the Holy Spirit and cemented with brotherly kindness, tenderness; it needs to be strengthened by acts which testify that God is love” (*In Heavenly Places*, p. 110).

“Courtesy is a Bible virtue. The virtue of this grace of brotherly kindness characterized the life of Christ. Never was such courtesy exhibited upon the earth as Christ revealed, and we cannot overestimate its value” (*Our High Calling*, p. 72).

Intercession Focus: Reconciliation & Unity

Pray for brotherly kindness to be displayed in all our relationships. Pray also for reconciliation, healing, and unity in all our broken relationships, including:

- Relationships between parents and children or other family members
- Friendships, both with church members and those who do not know Jesus yet
- Relationships between church leadership and lay members

Pray for unity in the church to be based on the Word of God and for unity to characterize all our organizational meetings, evangelistic outreaches, supporting ministries, and churches.

Brotherly Kindness / Reconciliation & Unity

While I work on the plan of **addition** . . . God is working on the plan of **multiplication**!

Dear Lord, during the next 24 hours, I feel You calling me to add this grace to my life: _____

In Your strength and by Your power, I choose to: _____

These are the ways I saw God multiply His grace to me today:

Brotherly Kindness / Reconciliation & Unity

Suggested Plan

Introduction—5 Minutes:

- Introduce the day's prayer topics: brotherly kindness and reconciliation/unity.
- Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on www.tendaysofprayer.org).
- Distribute five intercession cards to each person for use during supplication time.

United Prayer Time

Praise—5 Minutes:

- Unitedly praise God for being the source of all brotherly kindness and unity. Use the scriptures listed as springboards for your praises.

Confession—10 Minutes:

- Confess our lack of brotherly kindness.
- Have people spend two or three minutes individually asking God to reveal how their lack of kindness to others has hurt their relationship with Him and with others. Encourage people to ask God if there is anyone they need to make things right with, then seek forgiveness of that person as soon as possible after the meeting.
- There is space on the journal sheet to write the name of anyone they need to make things right with, so that the Lord's impressions will not be forgotten.

Supplication—25 Minutes:

- Pray for each individual to personally experience God's love for them so they can reveal His love in all their interactions with others.
- Pray through the scriptures on the theme sheet, especially the passage from Romans 12.
- Spend time praying for reconciliation and unity among individuals and groups in your local church and the world church.
- Claim the unity Jesus prayed for on our behalf in John 17.

Journal Page Time—5 Minutes:

- Allow silent time for individuals to ask God how to apply the day's prayer theme—brotherly kindness and reconciliation/unity in Christ—to their life in the coming 24 hours. They may also write down their prayer goal.

Praise—10 Minutes:

- Thank God for what He is doing and how He is bringing healing within our church.
- Thank God for the many answers to prayer He is giving!

Suggested Songs to Use: "I Love You, Lord"; "Holy, Holy, Holy"; "Open Our Eyes, Lord"; "Father, I Adore You"; "For God So Loved the World"; "Into My Heart"; "Tis Love That Makes Us Happy" (SDA Hymnal #579).