

You may kiss the Bride!

Romans 16:1-16, 21-24

Introduction:

Romans 12:9-10 *Let love be without hypocrisy. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor*

Romans 13:10 *Love does no wrong to a neighbor; love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.*

Romans 14:15 *For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.*

God wants us to be affectionate

2 Cor. 7:15 *And his affection abounds all the more toward you, as he remembers the obedience of you all, how you received him with fear and trembling.*

Phil. 1:8 *For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

Phil. 2:1 *If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,*

1 Thess. 2:8 *Having thus a fond affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.*

Three questions

#1-How would you rate your own level of affection for your brothers and sisters in Christ?

Every chance, when you're asked or rarely

#2-How would you rate your frequency of caring communication to other Christians?

daily, weekly, monthly, annually or never?

#3-Are you willing to allow God to change you? = Yes = No

#1. Paul's _____ **verses 1-2**

#2. Paul's _____ **verses 3-16 & 21-24**

1st - Paul knew many people by their _____

2nd - Paul remembered people for their _____ character traits

3rd - Paul encouraged genuine _____

• 3 *Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,*

#1 - They put their _____ on the line for Paul

4a *who for my life risked their own necks,*

John 15:13 *Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.*

#2 - They were _____ to Paul to the end

4b *to whom not only do I give thanks,*

#3 - They were very effective in _____ work

4c *but also all the churches of the Gentiles;*

Acts 18:24 *Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with baptism of John; 26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.*

• 5 *also greet the church that is in their house.*

• 5b *Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who is the first convert to Christ from Asia.*

- **6** Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you.
- **7** Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me
- **8** Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.

James 2:1 do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin

- **9** Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ,
and Stachys my beloved.

- **10** Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ.
Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.

- **11** Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet those of the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord.
- **12** Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, workers in the Lord.

Greet Peris the beloved, who has worked hard in the Lord.

- **13** Greet Rufus, a choice man in the Lord, also his mother and mine.

Mark 15:21 And they pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross.

- **14** Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the brethren with them.
- **15** Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.
- **16** Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

1st - Luke 7:45 You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.

2nd - Luke 22:48 Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?

3rd - Romans 16 Greet one another with a holy kiss.

#3. Paul's _____ verses 17 - 20

#4. Paul's _____ verses 21-24

- **21** Timothy my fellow worker greets you, and so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.

Phil 2:20-22 For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. 21 For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. 22 But you know of his proven worth that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.

- **22** I, Tertius, who write this letter, greet you in the Lord.

- 23 *Gaius, host to me and to the whole church, greets you.*

1 Cor 1:14 *I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius*

Erastus, the city treasurer greets you, and Quartus, the brother.

- 24 *[The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.]*

Conclusion:

1st. The church is _____

2nd. Every _____ is important

3rd. People need _____

4th. Greeting each other is a Christian _____

16 greet each other with a holy kiss

2 Tim 3:1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

2 For men will be lovers of self, ...3 unloving, ... = w/o family affection

Family Questions:

- 1-What is keeping us from showing affection to our brothers and sisters in Christ?
- 2-What choices must we make [in dependence upon the Holy Spirit] in order to be affectionate like Christ?
- 3-What are some specific and practical ways we can verbally encourage other Christians in our family - name 10
- 4-Try to describe how a church that is functioning with Christlike affection would make you and others feel each week.

Commit yourself to be that kind of Christian today!