

## Upcoming Events

Plan Congregational Meeting: Financial Report  
Mid-course Review: Saturday Meeting 2021  
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: TBA

### Brotherly Love

*“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”* John 13:34-35

*“Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.”* 1 John 3:18

*“Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”* James 1:27

### August Birthdays

4 Noah Perales    6 Gigi Zamarripa    12 Debbie Hoffman  
16 Nick Hoffman    19 Keith Lovelady    25 Pat Limburg

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
(Vacant)

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# Indio Informer

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### Brotherly Love

By Robert Notgrass

There is no greater force than love. If two people truly love each other, they will do anything for the other. For, there is no greater bond on earth than true love. And, how much more true is this of the love that is to exist between believers of Christ. When we immerse ourselves into the words of God, we find a love that exists between brethren, which is unlike that which the world knows. And, Peter states that our souls are to be pure so that we can have unfeigned love of each other stemming from a pure heart (1 Peter 1:22).

This love is Philadelphian love, which is a very special kind of love and rarely ever used in the Bible (12 times). Brotherly love as it is known, is a love that consists of the glow of the heart kindled by the perception of that in the object that affords us pleasure. It is the response of the human soul to what appeals to it as pleasurable. Philadelphian is a word used to speak of a friendly affection. It is a love called out of one in response to a feeling of pleasure or delight which one experiences from an apprehension of qualities in another that furnish such pleasure or delight. And, it is this love:

- That binds one another together as a family, as a brotherly clan.
- That binds one another in an unbreakable union.
- That holds one another ever so deeply within the heart.
- That knows deep affection for one another.
- That nourishes and nurtures one another.
- That shows concern and looks after the welfare of one another.

Thus, Peter states we are to have this unfeigned love, that is, a love that is genuine, sincere, without pretension, hypocrisy, or play—acting (Romans 12:9). We are not to pretend, play, and act like we love one another; we are to love one another genuinely and sincerely. This is important that we love in this way because 1 Peter 1:22 Points out the command to love with a pure heart “fervently”. This word does not mean to just love in warmth, but with full intensity. It literally implies to stretch love fully out or to love one another in an all-out manner. And, we love because we have purified our souls (v.22), because we are born again by the Word of God (v.23) and because our flesh withers and falls away (v.24—25).

Believers love one another because God has purified our souls and cleansed us of sin. We are forgiven through the majestic blood of Christ. We are free from guilt and the pollutions of the world. And, we stand before God, in a right relationship with him because we have been obedient to him. It is in this spirit that we each have the capability to love people with a clean and pure heart, with no restraint, no hiding behind bushes, and no thought of shame or weakness. Therefore, love one another in the freedom of a pure and clean soul.

## **Respect for Each Other**

By Dan Jenkins

Our nation has changed in so many ways, and this is so evident in the respect we have for each other. This is reflected in the way we sometimes speak to others. Since the words which come from our lips show what is in our hearts, to solve the problem we need to change the way we see each other. Jesus said, “*For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks*” (Matthew 12:34). The way we talk to each other should be that which edifies and builds up and imparts “*...grace to the hearers*” (Ephesians 4:29). How should we regard others as we speak with them? How do we show our respect for them?

Paul’s instruction to young Timothy illustrates the attitude of respect which should characterize each of us. Evidently, Timothy

was faced with rebuking older men who were Christians and needed to make changes in their lives. Paul said, “*Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father*” (1 Timothy 5:1). The Greek word for “rebuke” in this passage literally means “to pound, to flatten, to strike with blows.” There is never a time for young men to look at older individuals and treat with disdain. Yet, so often in our day the respect for those who are older no longer exists.

Look at how the Holy Spirit of God described for this young man to deal with those older men in his world. There is never a time for harsh words from arrogant hearts to berate anyone. Paul told this young man to speak to those older as he would his own father.

Paul then turned his attention to the way Timothy was to speak to those near his own age or even younger. How should young men treat their peers? Deal with them as you would deal with your own brother. The term “brotherly love” says so much about the respect we must have for each other (Romans 12:10; Hebrews 13:1; 2 Peter 1:7).

How should Timothy treat older women? Paul says he should have the same respect he gives his own mother (1 Timothy 5:2). That special place mothers have in our hearts reflects the attitude we need to have toward all older women.

Finally, Paul discusses the respect young men should have toward young women. They should be treated as sisters with all purity. Barnes’ commentary says it this way, “He was therefore to guard his heart with more than common vigilance in such circumstances and was to indulge in no word or look or action which could be by any possibility construed as manifesting an improper state of feeling.”

Take time to apply these principles to every relationship and the respect we should have for each other. Respect everyone, older and younger, with the dignity God sees in them. It might not change the world, but it will change ours!