



Praying Parents Prayer Group Christian Ministry

3pG Prayer and Fasting – SECRETS OF SPIRITUAL STABILITY

Wednesday 4th September 2019 - Day 3

BUILDING BLOCK 6: BROTHERLY KNIDNESS

Breaking of Bread: 2 Peter 1:1-7, 8, 10-11

Thanksgiving:

Sing and Praise God for chosen you to hear and pray through these truths. Thank Him for opening your eyes and given your heart understanding of scriptural mysteries.

Theme Song:

1. My hope is built on nothing less

**Than Jesus' blood and
righteousness;**

I dare not trust the sweetest frame,

But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;

All other ground is sinking sand.

**2. When He shall come with
trumpet sound,**

Oh, may I then in Him be found,

Clothed in His righteousness alone,

Faultless to stand before the throne!

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;

All other ground is sinking sand.

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BUILDING BLOCK 6: BROTHERLY KINDNESS

Just have a moment and reflect on the bond of affection that exist between you and your siblings. A special unexplainable bond you will say, especially between children from the same parents. At the beginning of the early church, Christians were very fraternal in the way they relate with themselves, it was an extension of the bond between the Lord and the 12 disciples, brethren were so fond of themselves as sons and daughters of the same Father. This kind of love was the type between brothers from the same family and so referred to as Brotherly kindness or Brotherly love.

Brotherly kindness therefore is love between Christians as though they are from the same biological family, like love between two brothers of same parents. It is a love strictly between the brethren. In the early church, Christians were hated as though they were "cult" because of this fraternal kind of love that was found between them. It is interpreted from the word "Philadelphia" meaning mutual love and friendship between Christ brotherhood.

This kind of love goes beyond the commandment to "love your neighbour as yourself", brotherly love is far deeper. It's better capture in Proverbs 17:17 **"A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."** No matter how bad the situation is, children from the same womb rarely abandon any one of their own, no matter the case. Even a condemned criminal will still be looked for and visited by siblings he shared the same womb with.

Christians shared the same spiritual birth, we came from the same womb, washed at the point of birth (Salvation) with the same Blood (of Jesus Christ) and so we must love as fraternal brothers. It is a command, it is a prerequisite for spiritual stability and it is a required qualification for entering Heaven. I know this will sound strange to many because the practice is almost lost due to the inversion of wolves, hirelings and mix multitudes into the Body of

Christ today, this kind of love is almost non existing but it can be revived, beginning from us at 3pG.

This is not *agape* (general love), and it is not *Eros* (sexual passion), rather it is *Philia* (Philadelphia, family bond or fraternal love) that place special preference for brethren ahead of others (outside the faith of Jesus Christ) in your list of goodies. **"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith"** (Galatians 6:10).

It is this love that makes one care for member of his/her own household, watch their back, stay loyal to them and sacrifice for them. When this happens between brethren, it is called Brotherly love or Brotherly kindness. It is a fraternal love expected among sons and daughters of the same Father. A congregation without fraternal love (Brotherly kindness) will be full of envy, gossip and all evil machination.

If God should base judgement on this, are we qualified? Yet, the standard of God cannot be changed. How should brotherly love be expressed among believers?

1. Forbear (endure patiently) with each other in love.

We are a bunch of imperfect people running towards perfection, we must have patience with each other, if any should be overtaken in sin, the others should protect him/her against wolves from the outside, the sin should not be covered, correct discipline measure should be taken within the household of faith in love, and the erring brother/sister should take discipline with all joy.

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond

of perfectness. 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

2. In honour preferring one another.

There should be no in-fighting for whatever reason. When it comes to occupying a position of leadership, or sharing of physical benefits or distribution of necessities or doing some certain "dirty" jobs in the church or in dealing with the rich and poor among ourselves etc. we must prefer others more than ourselves.

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

3. It is a command, do it to the brethren.

God commanded it and Himself by His Holy Spirit teaches us to love one another. This kind love is solely for brethren, we must be well guided. You will know them by their fruit, confession and commitments are part of such fruit. The leading of the Holy Spirit is key as well (this is very important for individuals and in particular for leaders). People who won't do what we do, go same direction with us, pray the same prayers with us, read same posts with us etc. may be deprived the privileges and the benefits we are enjoying.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

1 Thessalonians 4:9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. 4:10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;

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4. It is the only way to show we are His disciples.

We must love as brethren, as children of the same Father. Our love is **Philia**, much stronger than **Agape**. Love between family members is deeper and stronger. There are things people outside will do that you can't overlook but if it is family members, your reaction will be measured in love.

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Hebrews 13:1-3 Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

5. It is an evidence we are born of God and know God.

We are from the same Father, born of the same Spirit and redeemed by the same Blood of Jesus Christ. We are brethren.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

1 John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. **4:19** We love him, because he first loved us. **4:20** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

6. It is a mean of purifying our souls as obedience to the truth.

This is a great mystery, the more of brotherly love you have, the purer your soul.

1 Peter 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

7. Open up your bowels of compassions.

We must constantly be on the lookout for brethren who are in dire need of assistance, especially for those without daily provisions or those whose relations have become hostile to them because of their faith and in need of help, or brethren who can't pay children school fees (not those who are unnecessarily flamboyant in their choices) or to the sick brother/sister who needed help to keep up with financial or emotional demands of their health challenges, orphans, poor widows etc.

1 John 3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Acts 11:24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

Romans 15:2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.

Ephesians 6:7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

8. It is well pleasing in the sight of God.

Philia is sacrifice, it is a measure of loyalty and love; with this God is well pleased.

Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Hebrews 13:20-21 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

9. Add your personal and family prayer requests.

10. Cover all prayers and lessons learned with the Blood of Jesus Christ and seal them with Amen.

May you not be counted among them who draw back unto perdition, may your feet not fall off the grace of Jesus Christ and May you by Him find strength and grace for spiritual stability, now and always in Jesus Christ Mighty Name. Amen and Amen

Happy Covenant of Words - Isaiah 59:21

- Group Admin, 3pG.