

HOW CAN WE ALL GET ALONG IN THE CHURCH?

I PETER 4:8-11

Introduction:

A. Peter has informed these Christians how they will get along in the world.

1. "arm yourselves for suffering." v1
2. "they think it strange." a v4

B. Our relationships are also to one another.

1. Brother to brother.
2. Person to person.

C. What can we do to make things go as they should?

1. We have already examined. Matt 18:15-
2. I Cor. 5:7-13.
3. Titus 3:10-

I. "ABOVE ALL THINGS HAVE FERVENT CHARITY AMONG YOURSELVES" v8

A. "have intense and unfailing love for one another.

1. Why? See what love is.
2. I Cor 13:

B. "for charity shall cover the multitude of sins"

1. We should not try to cover up sins that need exposing. Heresy. More problems.
2. Personal offences, Not public offences.
3. Make sure you shut-up about it!

II. "USE HOSPITALITY ONE TO ANOTHER WITHOUT GRUDGING"

A. Hospitality = entertaining strangers.

1. Use this toward each other.
2. Grudging = murmuring, sullen discontent.

B. Often treat strangers better than we do one another.

1. Don't go to either extreme.

III. LET EVERYONE PRACTICE HIS OWN GIFT. V10

- A. The Lord has given diverse gifts to the church.
  - 1. I Cor. 12:6. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit."
  - 2. v14 For the body is not one member, but many.
  
- B. Jesus is the judge of His servants.
  - 1. John 21:21- "Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me."

IV. LET EVERYONE SPEAK ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE. V11

- A. "if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth."
  - 1. This is not the same as a gift.
  - 2. This is the use of our abilities.
  
- B. Not all people have the same ability.
  - 1. All can be faithful.

VI. LET GOD BE GLORIFIED IN ALL THINGS.

- A. "that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."
  
- B. Often times the glory of God is the last or least consideration.
  - 1. Let's get even, Let's protest.
  - 2. Thin of the body.