

Potpourri Time - Hebrews 13:1-4

“It is noteworthy that a letter of this sort, which has lifted us to the very heavens with the glorious things it has spoken about the Savior, ends with a chapter full of exhortations and practical instruction. These glorious things are real; necessarily they must affect the ordinary, everyday details of life.” David Gooding Commentary on Hebrews

Let brotherly love continue

Romans 12:10 (TPT) Be devoted to tenderly loving your fellow believers as members of one family. Try to outdo yourselves in respect and honor of one another.

1 Thessalonians 4:9 (TPT) There’s no need for anyone to say much to you about loving your fellow believers, for God is continually teaching you to unselfishly love one another

1 Peter 1:22 (TPT) Now, because of your obedience to the truth, you have purified your very souls, and this empowers you to be full of love for your fellow believers. So express this sincere love toward one another passionately and with a pure heart

2 Peter 1:5-9 (TPT) So devote yourselves to lavishly supplementing your faith with goodness, and to goodness add understanding, and to understanding add the strength of self-control, and to self-control add patient endurance, and to patient endurance add godliness, and to godliness add mercy toward your brothers and sisters, and to mercy toward others add unending love. Since these virtues are already *planted* deep within, and you possess them in abundant supply, they will keep you from being inactive or fruitless in your pursuit of knowing Jesus Christ more intimately. But if anyone lacks these things, he is blind, constantly closing his eyes to the mysteries of our faith, and forgetting *his innocence*—for his past sins have been washed away

- ❖ *It is possible to view this passage like an unfolding of faith. “Out of your faith will emerge goodness, and out of goodness will emerge understanding (of God), and out of understanding (of God) will emerge inner strength (self-control), and out of inner strength will emerge patient endurance, and out of patient endurance will emerge godliness, and out of godliness will emerge mercy toward your brothers and sisters, and out of mercy will emerge love.” It is also possible to view this passage as a mathematical equation. Faith + goodness = understanding. Goodness + understanding = inner strength. Understanding + inner strength = patience. Inner strength + patience = godliness. Patience + godliness = mercy. And godliness + mercy = love.* TPT Commentary

Don’t forget to entertain strangers

3 John 5-8 Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, who have borne witness of your love before the church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well, because they went forth for His name’s sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth.

Romans 12:13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

1 Peter 4:9 Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

Matthew 25:35-40 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

Remember Christians who are suffering

- ❖ *"If persecution came to our country, we should see more point to this exhortation. To this day in many countries many believers live in fear of imprisonment or are actually in prison. Let us remember those in prison as if we are in prison with them. For in a sense we are. They are in prison because of their stand for the gospel on which our salvation depends, out of loyalty to the Savior. We are in the same war."* David Gooding

Honor the sanctity of marriage

1 Peter 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

2 Peter 1:4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

- ❖ *"In order to guard against sexual immorality, God has ordained the sacred relationship of marriage. Undeclared contains more than an approval of conjugal relationship, but also entails the married couples' responsibility to preserve their intimacy from the perverse and debasing practices of a lewd society."* New Spirit Filled Life Bible Commentary