

How to Get Along

1 Peter 3:8-17

⁸To sum up, let all be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; ⁹not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. ¹⁰For, “LET HIM WHO MEANS TO LOVE LIFE AND SEE GOOD DAYS REFRAIN HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING GUILF. ¹¹“AND LET HIM TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; LET HIM SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT. ¹²“FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE UPON THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL.” ¹³And who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, *you are* blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED, ¹⁵but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

¹⁶and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong.

<3:8> Τὸ δὲ τέλος πάντες ὁμόφρονες, συμπαθεῖς, φιλάδελφοι, εὐσπλαγχνοὶ, ταπεινόφρονες,

Reminder of the context: Submission in suffering.

I. Our Attitude and Actions toward Others 3:8-12

As we read through verses 8-9, please look around, and look in the mirror to see if you see similarities to the passage.

Harmonious - 3675 ὁμοφρον homophron {hom-of'-rone}
from the base of 3674 and 5424;; adj
AV - of one mind 1; 1
of one mind, concordant

Sympathetic - 4835 συμπαθεῖ sumpathes {soom-path-ace'}
from 4841; TDNT - 5:935,798; adj
AV - having compassion one of another 1; 1
1) suffering or feeling the like with another, sympathetic

Brotherly - 5361 φιλαδέλφω philadelphos {fil-ad'-el-fos}
from 5384 and 80; TDNT - 1:144,22; adj
AV - love as brethren 1; 1
1) loving brother or sister

- 2) in a broader sense, loving one like a brother, loving one's fellow countrymen
 - 2a) of an Israelite
 - 2b) of a Christian loving Christians

Kindhearted - 2155 ευσπλαγχνός eusplagchnos {yoo'-splanikh-nos}
from 2095 and 4698; TDNT - 7:548,1067; adj
AV - tenderhearted 1, pitiful 1; 2
1) having strong bowels
2) compassionate, tender hearted

Humble in spirit - 5391 φιλοφρον philophron {fil-of'-rone}
from 5384 and 5424;; adj
AV - courteous 1; 1
1) friendly, kind

Does this describe your church? _____ You? _____

How would you describe your church? _____

What would it take for our church to be described that way? _____

How do you “give a blessing?” _____

What is a blessing? _____

Matt 5:10-12 ¹⁰“Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when *men* cast insults at you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me. ¹²Rejoice, and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

“Keep your tongue from evil” - bad

“And your lips from speaking guile”- deceit

“Depart from evil”

“And do good”

“Seek peace and pursue it”

II. Our Attitude and Actions during Suffering 3:13-17

(Specifically, when you are suffering for righteousness sake.)

Consider it a blessing - “If you suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed.”

Is that what you think about when you ask God to bless you? _____

How can you be blessed when you suffer? _____

Don't fear –

Don't worry - 5015 ταρασσο tarasso {tar-as'-so}

of uncertain affinity;; v

AV - trouble 17; 17

1) to agitate, trouble (a thing, by the movement of its parts to and fro)

1a) to cause one inward commotion, take away his calmness of mind, disturb his equanimity

1b) to disquiet, make restless

1c) to stir up

1d) to trouble

1d1) to strike one's spirit with fear and dread

1e) to render anxious or distressed

1f) to perplex the mind of one by suggesting scruples or doubts

Set up Christ as Lord of your heart – redouble your discipleship / fellowship of Christ.

Be ready to make a defense – prepare yourself, because God is going to give you opportunities to share the Gospel.

What should be your attitude? _____

Keep a good conscience – redouble your efforts to live above reproach

Remember you are not alone – “if God should will it so”

The fact that you are suffering didn't take God by surprise. He is allowing it and is definitely there with you.

Summary

We should do everything within our power to get along with others, even if they are treating us poorly.

Can you think of a situation you are going through where you are being mistreated and are having a tough time not reacting back against them?
