**Gifted to Minister – Devoted to One Another – Rom. 12:10**

*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love*

1. **Believers are to be devoted to one another like a family**
2. Mutual love of husbands and wives
3. Mutual love of parents and children
4. Mutual loving affection
5. Mutual loving tenderness
6. **Believers are to mutually love each other like family**
7. Philadelphia = love of brothers and sisters – used over 200 times in N.T
8. Brotherly love for all brothers and sisters in Christ
9. Brotherly love looking out for our brothers and sisters in Christ
10. Brotherly love providing for our brothers and sisters in Christ

*Now as to love of the brethren you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another 1 Thess. 4:9*

*Let love of the brethren continue Heb. 13:1*

*Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart 1 Pet. 1:22*

*Now for this reason also apply all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self – control, and in your*

*self – control perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness,* ***brotherly kindness, in your brotherly kindness, love.*** *2 Pet. 1:5 - 7*

**The church uses the language – brother in Christ or sister in Christ to reveal this kind of brotherly love**

1. **Believers must devotedly love each other in the family of God**
2. Believers in Christ are all part of the family of God

*He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ – Eph. 1:5*

*So, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and* ***are of the household of God*** *Eph. 2:19*

1. God provides the church to be a reparenting place for those who have never known the real love of family

*To Timothy, my true child in the faith…1 Tim. 1:2*

*But we were gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children. Having so fond an affection of you, we were will pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us. 1 Thess. 2: 7 -8*

*Just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory 1 Thess. 2:11 – 12*

1. Believers must live in harmony as the family of God

*To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted and humble in spirit, not 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 1 Pet. 3:9*

***The Family of God***

*You will notice we say brother and sister round here –*

*It’s because we’re a family and these folks are so dear.*

*When one has a heartache we all share the tears*

*And rejoice in each vict’ry in this family so dear.*

*From the door of an orph’nage to the house of the king.*

*No longer an outcast, a new song I sing.*

*From rags to riches, from the weak to the strong,*

*I’m not worthy to be here, but praise God, I belong.*

*I’m so glad I’m a part of the family of God;*

*I’ve been washed in the fountain, cleansed by the blood:*

*Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,*

*For I’m part of the family, the family of God*