

# **Church Family**

**8-24-24**

Hebrews 13:22–25 (ESV) NO/OH

<sup>22</sup> I appeal to you, brothers, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. <sup>23</sup> You should know that our brother Timothy has been released, with whom I shall see you if he comes soon. <sup>24</sup> Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those who come from Italy send you greetings. <sup>25</sup> Grace be with all of you.

Hebrews 13:22 (ESV)

I appeal to you, brothers, bear with ~~my~~ word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly.

**This letter is specifically written to the brothers. Generally, this term was used to reflect those of same family. Thus, the NIV says brothers and sisters. The term means “Those of the same womb.” God reveals the depth of HIS truth to HIS church family. The Apostle has affection and confidence in the church family.**

Romans 15:14 (ESV)

I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers (born of the same womb), that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct (come along side) one another.

**God reveals the depth of HIS purpose to HIS church family. Equipped these family members can encourage one another and take the message of Jesus to the world. In closing this letter, God is addressing the affection for one another that should be present within the church family.**

Hebrews 13:24 (ESV)

Greet (hug) all your leaders and all the saints. Those who come from Italy send you greetings (hugs).

**The word “Greet” literally means wrap your arms around or hug. Hug all leaders and saints. In Italy, the warmth and affection demonstrated was transforming. Speaking of Italy.**

Romans 16:16 (ESV)

Greet (hug) one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet (send hugs to) you.

**As believers we understand what is not appropriate, but God clearly wants a loving warmth among the saints in the church.**

Romans 1:7 (ESV)

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called ~~to be~~ saints. (“to be” is added)

**The word Saints means set apart, consecrated. Saints are saved sinners. The Apostle Paul, the greatest person in the NT other than Jesus never lifted himself above any other believer.**

1Tim.1:15 (NIV) NO/OH

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

**Like all saints, Paul wanted a hug. As believers who love one another united in Christ, we have a unique relationship. We are brothers and sisters, saints from the same womb. The church family should acknowledge, call upon, what unifies us.**

2 Corinthians 13:14 (ESV)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**We should pray and declare that grace, love, and fellowship be with each brother and sister. The Apostles prayed that the grace of Jesus be with believers, the love of God be with believers, and that the fellowship, participation, with the Holy Spirit be with believers.**

2 Thessalonians 3:16 (ESV)

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. **The Lord be with you all.**

**As believers it is perfectly appropriate to pray, “The Lord be with you all.” Likewise, we boldly pray God into situations. We even call out, “Come Holy Spirit Come.”**

**The Apostle now closing Hebrews acknowledges his deep affection for the church family.**

Hebrews 13:24 (ESV)

Grace, favor and power, be with all of you.

**Now we also with deep affection speak Grace, favor and power, to one another, the church family.**

Ephesians 3:20–21 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup> Now to HIM who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to HIM be glory in **“the church”** and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.