



"The Family the Lord Has Always Wanted"

1 Peter 3:8-12
October 12, 2025

The Big Idea: God, our Heavenly Father, longs for His children in the church to realize **His** expectations for our behavior. There is a particular **relational** ethic that Christians are called to live out which will radically increase our love for life, for one another, for our enemies and for our Lord.

1 Peter 3:8-12 (ESV)

3 ⁸Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

⁹Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

¹⁰For

"Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

GOD'S DESIGN FOR THE CHURCH (HIS PEOPLE):

Simple Family Rules

- ✓ Have "one **mind**"
- ✓ Care **deeply** for each other's struggles
- ✓ Love like **brothers & sisters**
- ✓ Be **tender** hearted
- ✓ Stay **humble**
- ✓ Fight **differently**

v. 10 Peter appeals to us on the basis of a possibility that we could **love** our lives instead of **hating** life.

How to get along:

1 Peter 3:10-11; Proverbs 11:9; 12:18; 15:1

¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

- If you can't say **anything nice**, don't say **anything at all**.
- Stop doing **what's wrong**, and start doing **what's right**.
- Be a person who creates **peace** not **tension**.

[There are more than 50 "one another's" in the NT]

[Romans 12:17-19]

Why this all really matters:

1 Peter 3:12 1 John 4:19-21

God will:

Watch over the **righteous**.

Actively listen to **their prayers**.

Stand against those who **do wrong**.

Did you know? Psalm 34 is the Old Testament passage that actually inspired Peter to write many of the things included in today's text. Read and meditate on it sometime this week, then read 1 Peter 3:8-12 again.

Challenges for Each of Us:

1. Remember, this week, our Father's desires for how we treat others, always being aware that they are made in His **image**, just as we are.
2. Pray that the next time you have **conflict** with another person (hint: that will be in the next few days), the Lord will remind you of 1 Peter 3:10-11
3. No matter how rough things get this week, find comfort in His **promises** (1 Peter 3:12).