Brotherly Kindness

Shawn Jeffries · 2 Peter 1:5–7 · Series: **Be Transformed**

INTRODUCTION

- Can we be hit by friendly fire? I want to submit to you that we can.
- This terminology, brotherly kindness, comes from a Greek word that you may already be very familiar with. It comes from the Greek word Philadelphia.
- It matters how we treat each other. It matters how we talk to one another and how we conduct ourselves when interacting with each other.

1 Brotherly Kindness Does Not Look Like Hatred

1 John 3:10–15

- Brotherly kindness doesn't look like hatred. Doesn't look like anger, doesn't look like jealousy, bitterness.
- Anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.
- We know that we pass out of death into life because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

2 Doesn't Look Like Betrayal or Forsaking My Brother

2 Samuel 11; 2 Timothy 4:10

- Brotherly love does not look like betraying and stabbing my brother in the back.
- Paul says that Demas has forsaken me. Why? Because he loved his present world.
- I'm not going to turn against you. I'm not going to leave you alone when you're hurting.

3 Doesn't Look Like Being Selfish

- He used Jesus to go after something that he valued, and brotherly kindness, brotherly love doesn't look like that. It doesn't look like using my brother.
- Brotherly kindness is not me being nice to you and being warm towards you because I'm trying to get some out of you.
- Always insisting that things be done my way, and if they're not done my way, I'm gonna treat you bad until you finally bend to my will.

4 Demonstrated With Kindness and Sympathy

Ephesians 4:32; John 11:35

- Brotherly kindness should be demonstrated obviously, with kindness.
- Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.
- It involves embracing every member of this church and not just the people in my little group.

- Being tenderhearted involves being gracious and compassionate and sympathetic and having a heart for the struggles and the problems that other people in the spiritual family have in their lives.
- Well, he wept because he cared. He cared about the sadness and the grief of Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus.

5 It Also Involves Humility

Ephesians 4:2

- With all humility and gentleness with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love.
- The humble person strips themselves of pride. The humble person strips themselves of selfishness and ego.
- Humility involves I'm still going to bear with my brother despite our personality differences.
- When his brother messes up, the humble person is willing to forgive him when he repents.

6 Make an Effort to Be Connected

Acts 2:42–47

- And all those who had believed were together had all things in common.
- They show us that the early Christians didn't just attend church together.
- If we're going to display brotherly kindness, then we got to make an effort to be connected.
- We're not just acquaintances, we're not just people who see each other once or twice a week. No, we are a family. We're brothers and sisters in Christ.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **May it challenge us to treat our brethren right. May it challenge us to always be mindful of the special relationship and practice brotherly affection and value every member in the family.**

MY NOTES