

“WE ARE FAMILY”

I Timothy 5:1-2

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INTRODUCTION

Comments on I John 3 and the fact that we children of God, brothers and sisters.

Therefore, we must treat each other as such!

Truly, God is our Father; yet, we must respect the older brethren as our Fathers and Mothers!

Since we are family, we ought to love one another, support one another, encourage one another, challenge one another, pray for one another, help one another grow into Christlikeness.

TREAT YOUR CHURCH FAMILY AS WELL (OR BETTER) THAN YOUR TREAT YOUR EARTHLY FAMILY

- I. APPEAL TO OLDER MEN AS TO A FATHER. (1)
 - A. Do not sharply rebuke them.
 - B. Challenge them gently and with respect, without ignoring wrong behavior.

- II. APPEAL TO OLDER WOMEN AS TO MOTHERS (2a)
 - A. Treat them with respect.
 - B. Yet, do not allow inappropriate behavior to go unchallenged.

- III. APPEAL TO YOUNGER MEN AS TO BROTHERS. (1B)
 - A. More your equals, giving tender care and affection.
 - B. Caring enough for them to not allow them to hurt themselves or others.

- IV. APPEAL TO YOUNGER WOMEN AS TO SISTERS (2b)
 - A. Brothers are often protectors of their sisters.
 - B. Sisters are often “best friends.”
 - C. The relation of Christian men to their spiritual “sisters” must be **“in all purity.”**
 - D. The “spiritual” can often slide into the “sensual” almost imperceptibly. [Don’t be fooled; Satan is a master deceiver.]

CONCLUSION

What do good families do?

- They care for one another.
- They spend time together.
- They pray together.
- They play together.
- They challenge one another toward godliness and Christlikeness.
- Read Hebrews 10:24-25.

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