

People, People, People!

1 Corinthians 16:15-21



1 Cor. 16:15-21

- Devotion to the brethren (15-18).
 - Devote yourselves to serve the brethren.
 - Devote yourselves under such leaders & recognize such members.
- Affection for the brethren (19-21).
 - Think of one another with affection
 - Greet one another with affection

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth. I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied. For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such.

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

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Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

v. 15 “ye know... they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints”

Addicted (KJV) = Devoted (ESV)

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

v. 15 “ye know... they addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints”

Addicted (KJV) = Devoted (ESV)

= place themselves in specific position to serve the brethren.

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Devote yourselves to serve the brethren

v. 16 – “help” & “labor with”

v. 18 – supply what is lacking

v. 19 – refresh the spirit

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- Devote yourselves to serve the brethren

v. 19 – refresh the spirit

- **Actively give feedback and supply help.**
 - **Avoid gossip.**

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v. 16 – “submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth.”

v. 19 – “acknowledge ye them that are such.”

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Devote yourselves under such leaders & recognize such members.

v. 16 – “submit yourselves”

= devote yourselves under

v. 15 – “addicted themselves”

= devoted themselves to

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Paul Tripp, *Dangerous Calling*, p.44.

“I began each semester by dipping into stories of my own pastoral unreadiness and failure with hopes that my narrative would be used to birth in them a greater, more roundly biblical vision of pastoral ministry... I was recounting my own heart struggle, when I had been asked yet again to visit a man who had already eaten up much of my pastoral time and energy, ...

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Paul Tripp, *Dangerous Calling*, p.44.

...when one of my students raised his hand and blurted out:

“All right, Professor Tripp, we know that we will have these projects in our churches. Tell us what to do with them so we can get back to the work of the ministry!”

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Paul Tripp, *Dangerous Calling*, p.44.

...notice this: he didn't even call the struggling people to whom we are all called to bring the gospel, "people". To him they were projects, that is obstructions in the way of his definition of ministry. Now if these people are not the focus and object of ministry, then what is ministry?"

Devotion to the brethren (15-18)

- Paul Tripp, *Dangerous Calling*, p.64.

...We must be careful how we define ministry readiness and spiritual maturity. There is a danger of thinking that the well-educated and trained seminary graduate is ministry ready or to mistake ministry knowledge, busyness and skill with personal spiritual maturity...”

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Affection for the brethren (19-21)

The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet ye one another with an holy kiss. The salutation of me Paul with mine own hand.

Affection for the brethren (19-21)

- Think of one another with affection
- Greet one another with affection

Greet with affection



MOVING GOD'S LOVE
FROM YOUR HEAD
TO YOUR
HEART



LOVE BEYOND REASON

JOHN ORTBERG

author of *THE LIFE YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED*



People, People, People!



- Love Beyond Reason, by John Ortberg.

“She had lost a lot of hair, one arm was missing, and she’d had the stuffing knocked out of her.”

People, People, People!

- Love Beyond Reason, by John Ortberg.

“When Pandy was young, Barbie loved her. She celebrated her beauty. When Pandy was old and ragged, Barbie loved her still. Now she did not simply love Pandy because Pandy was beautiful, she loved her with the kind of love that made Pandy beautiful.”

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