

## **“Belonging through the One Another’s”**

*How do the One Another’s foster belonging in the church?*

### **I. We are to Greet one another.**

#### **A. The act of greeting is mentioned Forty times in the N.T.**

**1 Corinthians 16:20** — <sup>20</sup> *All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.*

**2 Cor 13:12** - *“Greet one another with a holy kiss.”*

**Rom 16:16** - *“Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.”*

**1 Pet 5:14** - *“Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to you all who are in Christ.”*

1. **782 ἀπασπάζομαι**- 1 to draw to one’s self. 1A to salute one, greet, bid welcome, wish well to. 1B to receive joyfully, welcome.

#### **B. Jesus commanded us to include the stranger in our greeting-**

**Matthew 5:47–48** — <sup>47</sup> *“If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?”* <sup>48</sup> *“Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”*

1. Greeting new people should separate us from the unbelievers.

### **II. We are to Accept one another.**

#### **A. Practicing Self-denial on Behalf of Others.**

**Rom 15:7** *Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.*

1. **προσαναλαμβάνω** - to receive someone unto yourself with your hand as a supportive friend.
2. Accepting is put in a framework of selfless support for others.  
**Romans 15:1-6**

#### **B. We should avoid placing people in negative categories: three that are common**

1. **See people as acceptable** (befriend able),
2. **Resist making people invisible** (ignorable),
  - a. **James 2:3–4**
3. **Resist making people avoidable** (many reasons).
  - a. They are too needy (poor), too much baggage, too sad, too different.
  - b. These are ones that need to be accepted!

### **III. Be hospitable to one another.**

#### **A. Whereas accepting makes the emotional connection, Hospitality supplies personal resources.**

**1 Peter 4:9** *“Be hospitable to one another without complaint.”*

1. Normally **φιλόξενο** – means to be generous to guests.
2. **Context add a deeper meaning (v10)**, we are to be hospitable through employing our spiritual gift in serving other believers in the church.

#### **B. Using the total context of 1 Peter 4:9-10, how is hospitality defined?**

**1 Peter 4:9–10** — <sup>9</sup> *Be hospitable to one another without complaint.* <sup>10</sup> *As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

1. To generously sharing one’s abilities and resources to meet others’ needs,
  2. Specifically in the area of one’s spiritual gift.
- C. **Question:** What is your spiritual gift so that you can use it to meet the need of people in the church?

**THINK, PRAY AND OBEY:** Go and make people feel that they belong.

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