

and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,

"I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD.

²⁰ Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads."

*²¹ Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.
Romans 12:9-12 (NLT)*



"The Word of Compassion"

"Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple (John) whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, 'Dear woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home."

John 19:25-27 (NIV)

TWO FAMILIES

1. PHYSICAL family

- Pay ATTENTION

"Honor your father and your mother." Exodus 20:12 (NIV)

- Meet PRACTICAL needs

"Show respect for widows who really are all alone. But if a widow has children or grandchildren, they should learn first to carry out their religious duties toward their own family and in this way repay their parents and grandparents, because that is what pleases God."

1 Timothy 5:3-4 (TEV)

ACTION STEPS

“If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

1 Timothy 5:8 (NIV)

- Give **EMOTIONAL** support

“Friends love through all kinds of weather, and families stick together in all kinds of trouble.”

Proverbs 17:17 (MSG)

2. **SPIRITUAL** family

“Anyone who does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother!”

Matthew 12:50 (NLT)

“Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.”

Romans 12:10 (NLT)

“Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.”

Galatians 6:10 (NLT)

“Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2 (NLT)

1. Develop a Christ-like **ATTITUDE**

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

“So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin.”

1 Peter 4:1 (NLT)

2. Model a **CARING** community

Then Jesus’ mother and brothers came to see him, but they couldn’t get to him because of the crowd. ²⁰ Someone told Jesus, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, and they want to see you.” ²¹ Jesus replied, “My mother and my brothers are all those who hear God’s word and obey it.”

Luke 8:19-21 (NLT)

⁹ *Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.*

¹¹ *Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. ¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³ When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.*

¹⁴ *Bless those who persecute you. Don’t curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy,*