



## Final Words and a Beautiful Blessing

2 Corinthians 13:11-14

July 31, 2022

**The Big Idea:** After a lengthy and often contentious series of challenges, Paul ends with words of tenderness, **love**, and encouragement. He also prays for them through a **benediction** that calls on all three persons of our triune God.

2 Corinthians 13:11-14 (ESV)

**13** <sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers, **rejoice**. Aim for **restoration**, **comfort** one another, **agree** with one another, live in **peace**; *and the God of love and peace will be with you.* <sup>12</sup> **Greet** one another *with a holy kiss.* <sup>13</sup> All the saints greet you.

<sup>14</sup> The **grace** of the **Lord Jesus Christ** and the **love** of **God** and the **fellowship** of the **Holy Spirit** be with you all.

5 IMPERATIVES – EVIDENCE OF GOD’S WORK IN OUR LIVES:

1. **Rejoice** [Philippians 4:4]
2. **Mature**/grow in your walk with Jesus [Ephesians 3:14-19]
3. Exhort, **encourage**, submit [1 Thessalonians 5:11]
4. **Unity** around Biblical Truth [Philippians 2:2; 4:2]

5. Be at **peace** [Romans 12:18]

A BONUS COMMAND:

➔ Greet one another with **warmth** and **sincerity**

KNOW THE GOD TO WHOM WE PRAY:

- ▣ The Lord Jesus Christ [John 1:1]
- ▣ God (The Father) [Ephesians 4:6]
- ▣ The Holy Spirit [Ephesians 1:13]

KNOW THE PARTICULAR WORKS OF BLESSINGS EACH ONE PRODUCES IN GOD’S PEOPLE:

- ✓ GRACE – charis - the absolutely **free expression** of God’s lovingkindness; also, joy!
- ✓ LOVE – agape – God’s willful **choice** to give us what we **need**, not necessarily what we want [John 3:16]
- ✓ FELLOWSHIP – koinonia – the act of **participating** at a deep level in the privileges of relationships, especially of marriage and church.

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*Let’s admit that we are not enough, and turn  
to the God who is.*

—Jen Oshman

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