

THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE

Acts 21:1-14

Barclay's maxim "The man who is in the family of the Church has friends all over the world." (1976:154)¹

Let's talk about the fellowship of the believers.

1. Believers ought to **love** one another (v.1-3).
 - a. It announces **to the world** at large, that we belong to Jesus.
 - b. It **assures** our own hearts that we are true believers.
 - c. It **confirms** that we have truly experienced God's saving love.
2. Believers ought to **receive** one another (v.4-7).
 - a. Receive the **immature** brother.
 - b. Receive the **culturally distinct** brother.
 - c. Receive them into your homes, be **hospitable** (v.4).
 - d. Receive one another, making it a **family affair** (v.5-6).
 - e. Receive believers even if it upsets your **schedule** (v.7).

3. Believers ought to **forgive** one another (v.8-9).
 - a. Salvation **washes all** our sins away.
 - b. Salvation also takes away **our anger**.
 - c. Salvation provides not only the ability to forgive one who offended you, but also to love them **tangibly**. (v. 9). - **Forgiven** people forgive **people**.
4. Believers ought to **genuinely care** for one another (v.10-14).
 - a. It shows by our **concern**.
 - b. It shows in our **prayers**.

Take this with you: There is actually only one prayer that is guaranteed a positive answer every time. "Father, **Thy will be done.**"

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¹ Larkin, W. J., Jr. (1995). *Acts* (Vol. 5, Ac 21:1). Downers, IL: InterVarsity Press.