



## PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

11 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. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. 13 All the saints greet you. 14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:11-14

## ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE

17 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. 18 They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." 19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. 22 And have mercy on those who doubt; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh. 24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Jude 17-25

## SUMMARY

Paul concludes 2 Corinthians with final instructions and a benediction blessing for the church. This benediction contains the three great words of the gospel: grace, love, and fellowship. The greatness of these words is found in their source, our Three-in-One God. These three words not only reveal God to us but define both our experience and our mission in Christ. May we, as a result of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, live life together shaped by the Cross.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Paul has come to the point where he gives his final greetings to the Corinthians. As a servant of God, he has taught, disciplined, and shared his heart to his church. Do you think it is difficult for Paul to finally rest in his words and allow the power of the Holy Spirit to work? Explain. Describe how you may have had a similar experience.
2. Paul is addressing his "brothers." Who are our brothers? Who are not considered brothers?
3. Appropriately, verse 11 says "rejoice." In addition to rejoicing, what other actions does Paul suggest for his people? What happens when these qualities are not present in church today or they are not dealt with?
4. Identify ways as a church we should appropriately handle problems, conflicts, and difficulties. Consider what happens if we gloss over these problems?
5. What do you think are "right" and "wrong" approaches when confronting others with issues or disagreement?
6. Read Luke 6:40, Romans 12:16, Mark 9:50, Jude 21, and Phil. 2:1. Compare these verses with Paul's desire for his brothers stated in 2 Cor. 13:11.
7. How do the *grace of the Lord Jesus Christ*, the *love of God*, and the *fellowship of the Holy Spirit* shape the way you live and share your life today?

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