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1Pet. 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:



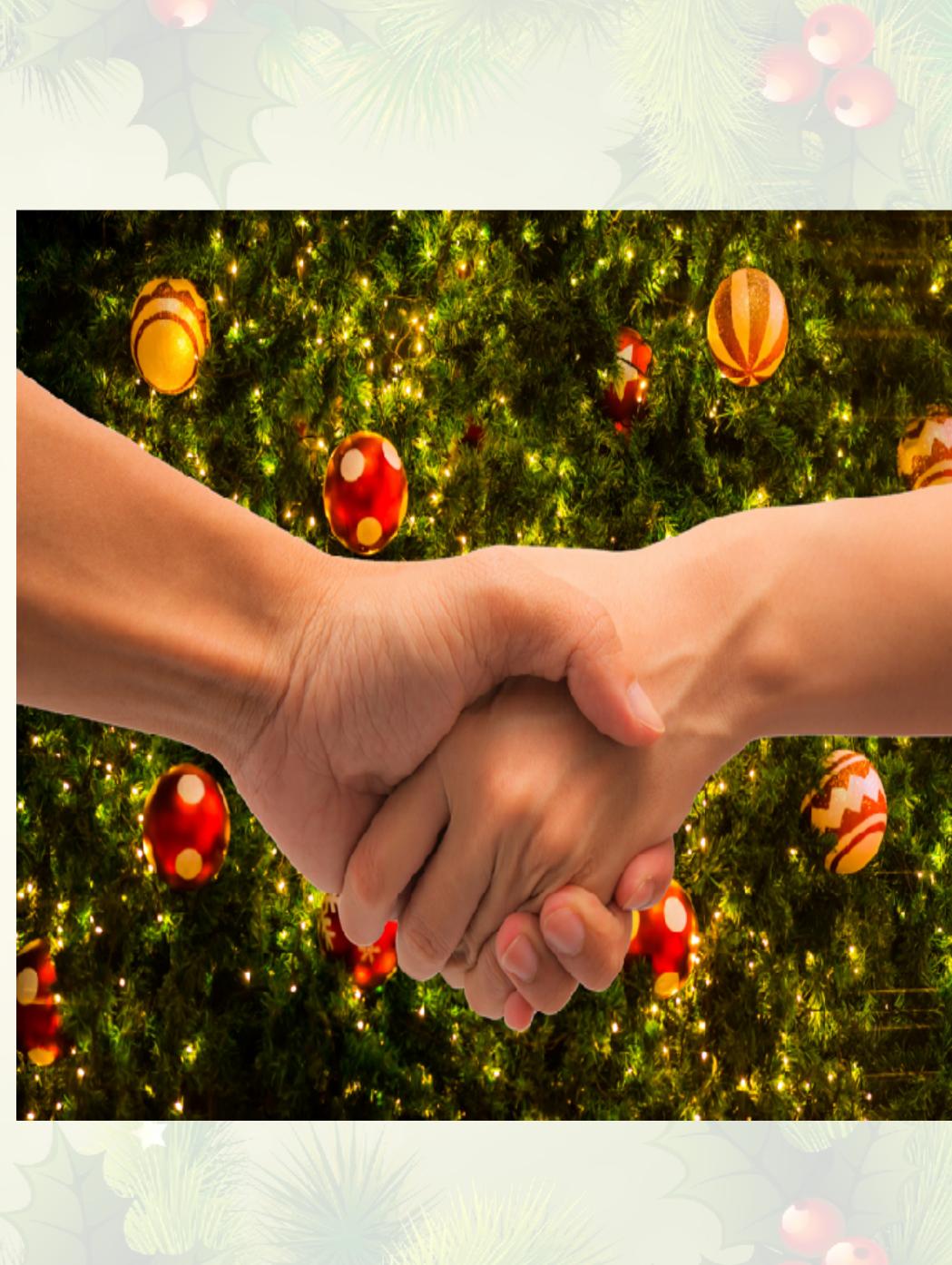
- During the holiday season, we should make a special effort to represent the church well by understanding one another. Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,
- Taking the time to understand one another, as brothers and sisters, will help you to handle others with love and tender-hearted concern. Eph. 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.
- Even when we are right, we should be courteous to those that are wrong. Sometimes we have to cater to their lack of understanding, so that we can establish understanding with them and bring healing. Eph. 4:2 With all gentle and quiet behaviour, taking whatever comes, putting up with one another in love;



1Pet. 3:9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.



- As believers, we must not do harm to people just because they are doing harm to us. We are to pray for them and do good to them regardless of their actions. Luke 6:28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.
- Consequently, there may be a long history of hurt and pain in your dealings with some, we must pray that things will eventually work out good for them. Jude 22 And refute [so as to] convict some who dispute with you, and on some have mercy who waver and doubt.
- Although, relationships may by altered by time and various circumstances, we should continue to believe God for healing, so that we may walk in peace with our brethren. 1Pet. 3:11 And let him be turned from evil and do good; searching for peace and going after it with all his heart.



1Pet. 3:10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:



- In order for things to be better, we must speak better things about our lives. We can alter our very existence by speaking evil instead of good. Prov. 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.
- Our entire outlook on holidays and family can change if we refrain from speaking evil when we see the seasons approaching. Eph. 4:31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:
- Loving life and seeing good days ahead come from us doing good things for others and forgiving those that hurt us. Healing begins when we address situations that need to be mended. Matt. 5:23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.





The holiday season is a dreadful time for many. People become depressed, suicidal, and anxious when this season approaches because of past issues with family and close friends. Some become depressed because they lack material things while others are dismayed because they feel lonely, rejected, or shunned by loved ones. During this time, many will start clamoring about the past and focusing on all that is wrong with them and their lives. They will think about those that have hurt them and blame others for them being alone, misunderstood, and pitiful. But the Bible is clear about how our viewpoint shapes our outlook! Our mindset and our words can alter our perception to create the very thing that we dread.



A healing season begins when we decide to think differently about ourselves and our loved ones. When we change our perception and what we are saying, we will change how we view the holiday season. As this season draws near, we should begin to forgive those that hurt us and pray for the wellbeing of those that are lost. We should keep our lips from speaking evil and start speaking good about the brethren. We should let go of past hurt and start focusing on future healing. The holidays are what we make them to be. If we want to enjoy them, we must change our minds and our words, so that we think and speak is what we desire to see.



1Peter 3:11 [Amplified] Let him turn away from wickedness and shun it, and let him do right. Let him search for peace (harmony; undisturbed by fears, agitating passions, and moral conflicts) and seek it eagerly. [Do not merely desire peaceful relations with God, with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them!]

