

## **I. GREETING OTHERS IS A COMMANDMENT (PHILIPPIANS 4:21-23)**

- A. It is a commandment that believers are to joyfully obey **(2 John 12-13; 3 John 13-14)**
- B. It is a spiritual duty that is a simple expression of love **(1 John 4:19)**
- C. It is a relational duty that affirms the value of others in the body **(Romans 16:1-16)**
- D. It is a commandment where we must be intentional **(3 John 15)**
- E. It is a duty that may bring unexpected or surprise blessings **(Hebrews 13:1-2)**

## **II. GREETING OTHER CHRISTIANS IS FOUNDATIONAL TO HEALTHY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (1 PETER 5:14)**

- A. Greeting fellow believers initiates relationships and is foundational to all the other "one another" commands
  - 1. Like pray for one another, bear one another's burdens, honor one another, forgive one another, etc. **(Colossians 3:12-16)**
- B. Greeting fellow believers maintains healthy fellowship **(Romans 15:5-7)**
  - 1. Greeting promotes unity and harmony
  - 2. Greeting is a simple but effective form of hospitality
  - 3. It is a reminder of our shared identity and union in Christ **(1 John 1:3)**
  - 4. It eliminates partiality **(James 2:1-9)**

## **III. GREETING UNBELIEVERS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVANGELIZE**

- A. Greeting unbelievers shows the love of Christ and distinguishes us from the world **(Matthew 5:42-47)**
- B. Greeting unbelievers can open a door for evangelism **(Colossians 4:2-6)**
- C. We are not to greet false teachers or false prophets **(2 John 7-11)**

