

Keys to Happy Relationships

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:31-32, NASB)

Good relationships within the Church aren't automatic. They require effort: compassion, patience, forbearance, and forgiveness. Good relationships in the Church require the same effort as good relationships in the home:

- Remember to think of the other person's feelings and welfare first, and yourself second.
- Be willing to "go the extra mile" again and again and again.
- Give of yourself freely, without keeping a balance sheet.
- Even in their weakest moments, when they seem the most annoying and unreasonable, even when you are absolutely positive that the blame is entirely theirs, go out of your way to understand them and care about their feelings and see the situation through their eyes.

*When the Church is as diverse
as Christ wants it to be,
it will include people with a broad range of
problems and
weaknesses.*

*When the inevitable annoyances and conflicts arise,
show the same
patience,
gentleness,
forbearance, and
forgiveness that
Christ shows you.*

Hymn: Family in the Lord

<http://lnwhymns.com/Hymn.aspx?ID=185>