

Signs of the Caring and Committed  
#35:We're Family in Here  
Romans 12:10

***“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love”***

**Romans 12:10a (NASB)**

Inspired by the importance of hospitality in the Italian culture, the national restaurant chain *Olive Garden* proclaims “when you’re here, you’re family.” Now that we are Christians, the same principle applies to every member of the Church of Christ.

Now that we are *in here*, we’re family.

Paul proposes this when he says be “kindly affectioned” (KJV) or “devoted” (NASB) to each other in “brotherly love.” Two Greek words drive the meaning of the phrase: *Philostorgos* (bound by a family tie) and *Philadelphia* (love of brothers and sisters). Together they denote “loving our brothers and sisters in faith *as though they were* brothers and sisters by blood.”

Now that we are *in here*, we’re family.

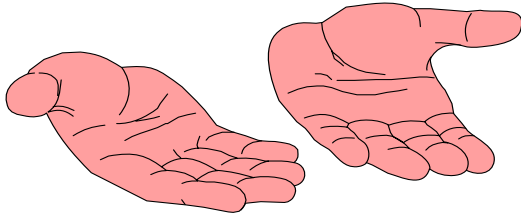
Other translators seem to get the message. Please note the following translations of the first part of verse 10:

**“Love one another with brotherly affection [as members of one family]”**  
**Amplified Bible**

**“Show family affection to one another with brotherly love.”**  
**Holman Christian Standard Bible**

Our love for our blood brothers and sisters is a natural sentiment, not forced. But how can we best capture the feeling of family among Christians as this verse demands? The idea is not so foreign. We love our children and support them in their endeavors and interests because they are our own blood, naturally. We fervently root for local Detroit sports teams or Americans in the Olympics—also naturally—because we

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**too are Detroiters and Americans. Why can't that same sentimentality, emotion, sensibility, concern, and passion apply to those whose name we share with the Father? It's ultimately about how vested we are in our church family and its well-being.**

**Now that we are *in here*, we're family.**

**Jesus made it clear as to where he stood in the following passage:**

**Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You." But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" *And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers!***

**Matthew 12:47-49 (NASB)**

**We must be devoted with a stake in each others' faith. We need to be caring & committed to the courageous Cause--together.**

**Now that we are *in here*, we're family. Glory be to God for that!**

**With Care and Commitment,**

**Patrick Medlock, Minister**

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Courageous Cause!**