

## **Romans 12:13**

### Compassion

*Sharing joyfully ...*

#### I. Real Needs

A. Jesus and the Needy

B. Christian Charity

1. Open Hearts, Open Pockets
2. In House
3. Outreach

#### II. Personal Touch

A. Jesus and Koinonia

B. Christian Fellowship

1. Open Hearts, Open Homes
2. In House
3. Outreach

*... in the name of Christ.*

#### **Children, Listen ...**

1. Should Christians help to care for each other's needs?
2. Do you know what our "benevolence" offering is for?
3. Have you made friends here in your church?
4. Do you try to meet people in your church that you don't know yet?
5. Do you think Jesus cares if we are friendly and caring to others or doesn't it really matter?

### **Part and Parcel of Piety**

We often think of piety as consisting of things like prayer, worship, devotions, righteous living and the like. Those things are certainly essentials of faith. But we must never forget that piety is really of lifestyle thing, it is living the Christian life in all its dimensions. Paul mentions two things that are not optional add-ons but are part and parcel of faithful Christian living. They are practical marks of holiness that should be present in every church and individual believer: a caring compassion for those in need and a generous hospitality shown to others. The details of how these things are played out in the body of Christ and each person in the body will vary in kind and degree, but they must be present or something is sadly lacking. As is often the case we are exhorted here to continue to do the very things we are doing ... and to strive to excel in them even more.