

1 Corinthians 13:11-13

My thoughts

Your thoughts

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal,

agree with one another,

live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

How we relate to one another

What is first priority? What are the things that really do not matter so much? What are the priorities that Jesus demonstrated and taught? (Matthew 28:16-20)

Lol! Brothers and sisters do not agree with one another! How do we live this when we are all so vastly different? In that, we agree with their value, their purpose, and that their perspective and feelings are valid. We agree with the Spirit of Christ that dwells within each of us. We focus on the commonalities and not the differences.

This goes both ways – God’s love and peace enables us to share this with others, but if we reject it, it is removed from us and we are unable to share it with others.

What is a COVID-19 21st Century Australian equivalent of the holy kiss? What was the purpose of the holy kiss? – Closeness, intimacy, and trust. To share in their suffering and their joy. Eye contact? Words of affection? Giving a person time and attention when saying hello. Being meaningful and not superficial.

Reminder of the unity of believers across the world – remembering that the agreement with one another and the holy kiss is with them also, regardless of the cultural differences.

We are redeemed, rescued, saved

We are forgiven, adopted

We are sanctified, made holy, being transformed.

We are all in this, all given this, together. If I am a child of God, and you are a child of God, then you are my brother and my sisters.

