**All Part of the Family of God**

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**By Gordon M. Fauth**

The one family in heaven and earth, of which is composed of "Born again"

creatures, whose bodies possessors of the holy virtue from heaven are called “The holy spirit, Which is a part of God Himself. "By their fruits ye shall know them,” Matthew7:20.

Our acquaintances with many of this vast family are so limited that their qualities both good and bad are hidden from us. We probably do have a few personal acquaintances who we know well and the fruits of whose lives are well know to us. Even here we should try to speak only of their good fruits because the saviour has commanded us not to judge. Luke 6:37

This is also good sense. Few people like having their shortcomings pointed out, particularly in a spiteful manner, and to do so will generally cause a negative attitude as' well as ill will. On the other hand, a little encouragement and a few friendly words will often work wonders. "A soft answer turneth away wrath but grevious words stir up anger” Proverbs 15:1

There are times when blunt word is called for, times when we should speak out. But we should always be careful and think twice, choose our words and actions carefully and never do anything spitefully. We are warned to be careful in what we speak. Few things cause more trouble then thoughtless words.“Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words though shall be justified, and by thy word though shall be condemned.” Mathew 12:36-37

If we try only to find faults in others we will have no difficulty in finding plenty of faults. That’s the way it works. But we will also be ignoring a weakness and possibly a worse fault in ourselves. Not one of us is perfect and this fact is something each one of us should remember. When we strive only to find and spread abroad the faults of another person, we bring unnecessary reproach upon both of us, without doing either of us any good.Most of us perhaps “All of us” are inclined to be a little too critical on what we do not understand or approve of in others. This is a common human failing and we need to recognize it as such and then to control it and overcome it.

Some people may have more faults than others, but no one has anything: to boast about. ‘‘For we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” Romans 3.23.No one has earned salvation, rather it. is a freely given gift to those who accept it and who believe in  Jesus[Yeshua] and the Sacrifice he made. For by the grace are ye saved; through faith and that not of yourself: it is that gift of God” Ephesians 2:-8.

Christ, our loving Saviour, alone represents perfection. He is our perfect example (I Peter', 2:21) and it is our goal to become more like Him. If we think of a great circle: then Christ is at the center of it, and it is this center we are striving to reach

We are not all at the same place in this Circle. Some may now be near the center in strength and under-standing:  Some are half, way there:  some are 'still further from the center of, perfection: and some have just stepped over the line, been baptized, and started their lives anew. As we gain strength, often we stumble and rise again, just as a child learning to walk, but we still keep struggling along to gain the victory.

Our goal is perfection, but none of us has yet attained this goal. It is a glorious battle to be fought and won. To guide us, we have a perfect example in Christ Jesus [Yeshua], the instruction given in the Holy scriptures and the guiding power of the holy Spirit. As we pass through this life, we should do the best we can, growing in "grace and knowledge"

(2 Peter .3: l8) and helping each other along.

We arc all Brothers and Sisters in God's family. We may not all have exactly the same creed and we do not always share exactly the same line of thought, but our eyes are centered on the goal of' victory and we are all waging a common battle to reach that center of perfection.

 Let us all remember this and do what we can to make things easier for each other. We are all pretty much alike and share the same human faults and weaknesses. We are all fighting that great fight and through his grace there is a glorious victory for us to win!

THREE GATES

If you are tempted to reveal

A tale someone to you has told

about another, make it pass,

Before you speak, three Gates of Gold.

These three gates are:

First, "Is it true?"

Second, "Is it needful?"

And Third, "is it kind?"

I f you answer truly, and if,

To reach your lips,

It passes through these gateways three,

Then you may tell your tale.