



# FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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## GREETINGS



“GRACE TO YOU AND PEACE FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.” TO EVERY CHURCH THAT PAUL WROTE, HE USES THIS SAME EXPRESSION. HE KNEW THE VALUE OF FRIENDSHIP AND RELATIONSHIPS. WE NEED TO DO THE SAME.

WE’VE HAD NEW VISITORS IN OUR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE EVERY WEEK FOR THE PAST SIX WEEKS. THAT’S TRULY A BLESSING! I’VE BEEN PLEASED TO SEE MANY GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO WELCOME THESE, THAT’S A BLESSING AS WELL. WITH THAT THOUGH, LET ME ALSO REMIND YOU OF THE NEED TO GREET THE “REGULARS” TOO. WE DON’T ALWAYS DO SO WELL AT THAT, ESPECIALLY IF THEY SIT IN ANOTHER SECTION OF THE AUDITORIUM.

### THERE’S A WELCOME THERE

- FREQUENTLY IN SCRIPTURE WE READ OF GREETINGS FROM ONE TO ANOTHER

1. AN ANGEL SAID TO MARY, “GREETINGS, FAVORED ONE! THE LORD IS WITH YOU.” (LUKE 1:28)
2. “JAMES, A BOND-SERVANT OF GOD AND OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, TO THE TWELVE TRIBES WHO ARE DISPERSED ABROAD: GREETINGS.” (JAMES 1:1)
3. JOHN CONCLUDES: “THE CHILDREN OF YOUR CHOSEN SISTER GREET YOU.” (II JOHN 13)

### THERE’S A WELCOME HERE!

- NOTE HOW SOME ENCOURAGED OTHERS TO WELCOME THOSE UNKNOWN TO THEM

1. THOSE IN EPHESUS WROTE CONCERNING APOLLOS, “AND WHEN HE WANTED TO GO ACROSS TO ACHAIA, THE BRETHERN ENCOURAGED HIM AND WROTE TO THE DISCIPLES TO WELCOME HIM . . . “ (ACTS 18:27)
2. IN COLOSSIANS 4 PAUL SENDS GREETINGS FROM HIS COWORKERS TO THE CHURCH AT COLOSSAE. HE WRITES, “ARISTARCHUS, MY FELLOW PRISONER, SENDS YOU HIS GREETINGS AND ALSO BARNABAS’S COUSIN MARK (ABOUT WHOM YOU RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS; IF HE COMES TO YOU, WELCOME HIM).” (COL. 4:10 AND SEE VERSES 12 & 14 AS WELL)

### THERE’S A WELCOME HERE?

- THERE’S ALWAYS NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT. ARE WE TRULY FRIENDLY TO ALL WHO VISIT OR ATTEND?

1. WE NEED TO GREET ALL PEOPLE, NOT JUST THOSE WE ALREADY KNOW. NOTE CHRIST’S CAUTION. “IF YOU GREET ONLY YOUR BROTHERS, WHAT MORE ARE YOU DOING THAN OTHERS? DO NOT EVEN THE GENTILES DO THE SAME?” (MATTHEW 5:47)
2. JOHN CONCLUDES HIS LAST EPISTLE WITH THE WORDS “GREET THE FRIENDS BY NAME.” (III JOHN 1:15)

- DO WE KNOW THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO ATTEND OUR CHURCH AND DO WE GREET THEM?

MIGHT ALL OF US GREET ALL OF US!

LOOKING UP!

PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE