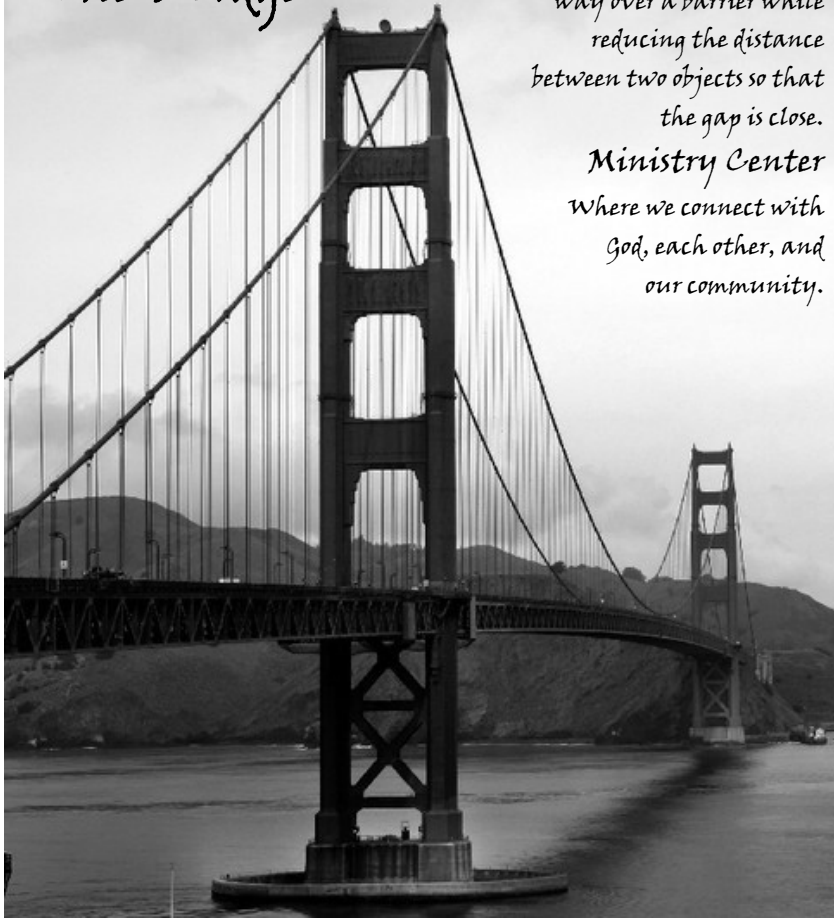


## "The Bridge"



*A structure that provides a way over a barrier while reducing the distance between two objects so that the gap is close.*

*Ministry Center*

*Where we connect with God, each other, and our community.*

### Sunday Morning

Sunday School \_\_\_\_\_ 10:00 am  
Preaching \_\_\_\_\_ 11:00 am

### Sunday Evening

Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ 5:30 pm  
Adult Prayer Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ 6:15 pm

Tuesday Evening Visitation \_\_\_\_\_ 5:30 pm

### Wednesday Evening

Teenagers \_\_\_\_\_ 5:30 pm  
Adult Prayer Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ 6:15 pm  
Choir \_\_\_\_\_ 7:00 pm

Men's breakfast the last Sunday of the quarter  
5th Sunday night singing  
Ladies social the first week of the quarter

VBS-GROW-BIG

## Vision Reborn

This vision plan has God in the Center and is dedicated to growing his Kingdom.

As a part of the rebirth of this vision I dedicate this journey to my beautiful wife who for over seventeen years joined me in this journey together. We have dreamed, lived and faced many challenges. You are my hero. My example of LOVE that God has given me.

My boys Kyle, Wes, Zion, and Henry. God gave you to me, with your warrior hearts. I know you definitely have what it takes. I am so very proud of you.

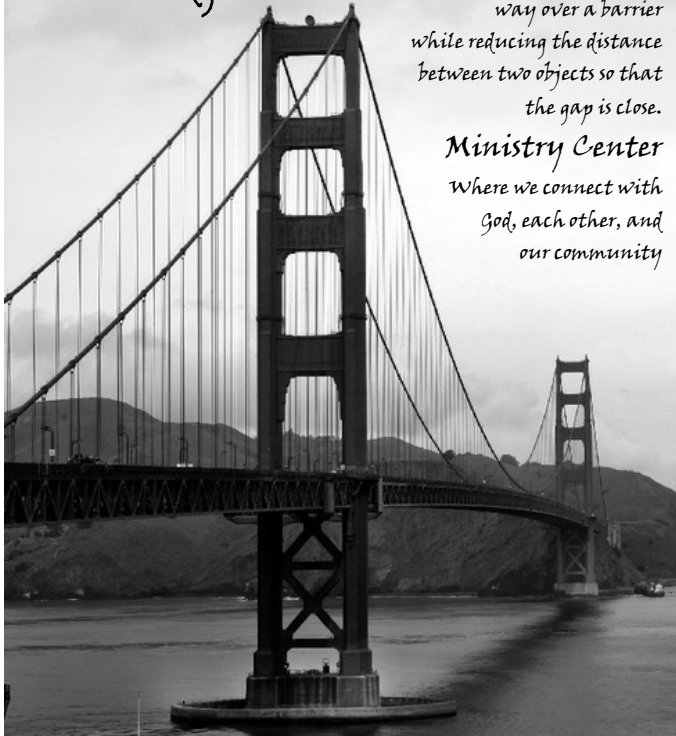
My launch family who are laying it on the line daily. You are the best friends anyone could have.

1 Corinthians 2:9... No eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has entered into the heart of a man, the things that God has prepared for those that love Him and called according to his purpose.

Matthew 19:26... With men this is impossible; but, with God all things are possible.



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## Receiving a Vision

(Rebuilding Block # 1)

**(Acts 16:7-10)** Paul's motivation was a clear vision from God. In verse 9, Paul's vision was of a man standing & begging him to "come help." Immediately, Paul redirected his actions in response to this vision & the result was the gospel was preached and an Impact was made.

**Launching** a "new work" is much the same way; it must flow out of a clear vision from God! Paul's vision was so specific that it required a new direction.

**Nehemiah's vision** started out as a concern for God's people because the spiritual condition in Jerusalem was so terrible. Nehemiah's vision did not require immediate action, he waited.

**Vision matures in us while waiting and we mature during preparation**

(Philippians 2:13)

## Why even consider a "new work" in Greenhill?

People are tired and ready to quit

- Enemy is attacking families and churches.
- Lifeless Christianity, worship, and relationships.
- We need to get people oriented again and cast a vision about a *new alive kind of place* in our community.
- Communicate the vision as a solution to the problem.
- Nehemiah's words were a wake up call to open eyes.
- Vision casters rarely bring new information.
- Nehemiah's solution was that he envisioned a walled city where God would be honored!
- Nehemiah's reason was (Neh. 2:17)... "Disgrace"
- Israel was supposed to be a light because they were commissioned by God and so are we!
- Nobody would have ever guessed that because the temple and Gods glory was gone.
- Our reason is to make a difference and see lives changed through an encounter with Jesus Christ.





## *Vision Questions*

**What** difference will this make if we are successful or not?

**Why** should we attempt this?

**Is** the vision enough to cause us to jump?

**Neh.2:18 says:** People risked a lot to jump in with Nehemiah. They left homes, families, and careers.

*We will have to leave the familiar to embrace the unfamiliar.*

### **Proverbs 29:18 says**

1. **Vision gives life:** Where it is not present, there is death. Could this be why so many churches have declined or leveled off?
2. **Vision gives direction:** Without it we have no purpose. Vision helps people us look beyond the next step or barrier.
3. **Vision gives unity:** Without it people run wild (like unbridled horse)

Vision is a promise of what is to be! Not much happens without a “Dream.”

For something to happen someone must paint the Dream to give us something to lift our sights above the ordinary.

Visions speak of images & pictures. It is a mental picture of all that God intends His church to be! In the early stages it’s usually out of focus, we have to work through the process until it becomes crystal clear.

Visions appear crazy in the early stages. President Kennedy talked about putting a man on the moon long before the technology existed.

Visions must differentiate us from others, so the work must be unique from others around our community. In other words, do people want to attend, listen to a sermon, or serve at our place?

**Matt.6:9-10** If God had His will and His Kingdom was to come as a result of His church launching a new work among unreached or unsaved people, what would it look like?



## *What is a shared vision?*

A God given dream (push/burden) that allows one to see future potential before others see

Begins with an intense burden

Happens through a season of intense prayer & fasting. Visions become clearer & more intense over time.

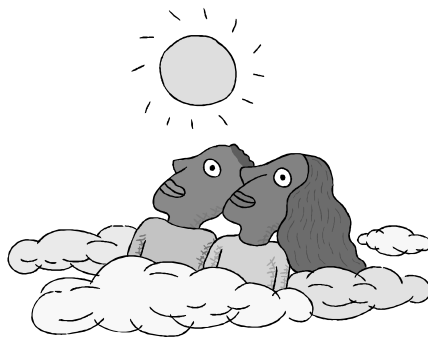
Visions can be cast in many formal & informal settings to clarify the vision. Leadership is dialogue not monologue. Vision shapes us, controls us, and determines who & what we become.



*Leaders speak to people's hearts & listen to their heartbeats.*

## ***Why is Vision Important?***

- Creates unity
- Provides motivation
- Provides a tangible way of evaluating our goals



## **How is Vision Developed?**

- Studying the Word, prayer, and fasting.
- Studying our culture and lifestyles of the people.
- By listening to the people

## **Components that make up a “shared” vision**

**VISION STATEMENT:** What has God called us to become?

Vision: What Will It Look Like?

We imagine a church that impacts the Greenhill Community by giving people the best opportunity to passionately pursue Christ.

We imagine a church that has a dynamic worship experience. We see a church that utilizes the arts and creative teaching to communicate the gospel which leads to transformed lives. We will communicate truth in a relevant manner. We envision a place where people desire to invite their unreached friends because of the love and hospitality of our people.

We imagine a church where people experience biblical community through small groups. We envision groups that multiply and grow rapidly.

We imagine a church that ministers to the whole family. We envision children and student ministries that are effective. We see a church that connects with each generation at its level. We dream of a place that helps heal and restore marriages by equipping husbands and wives to love one another in a biblical manner.

We imagine a church that participates in community transformation through service projects and connecting events, by being a lighthouse to our community.



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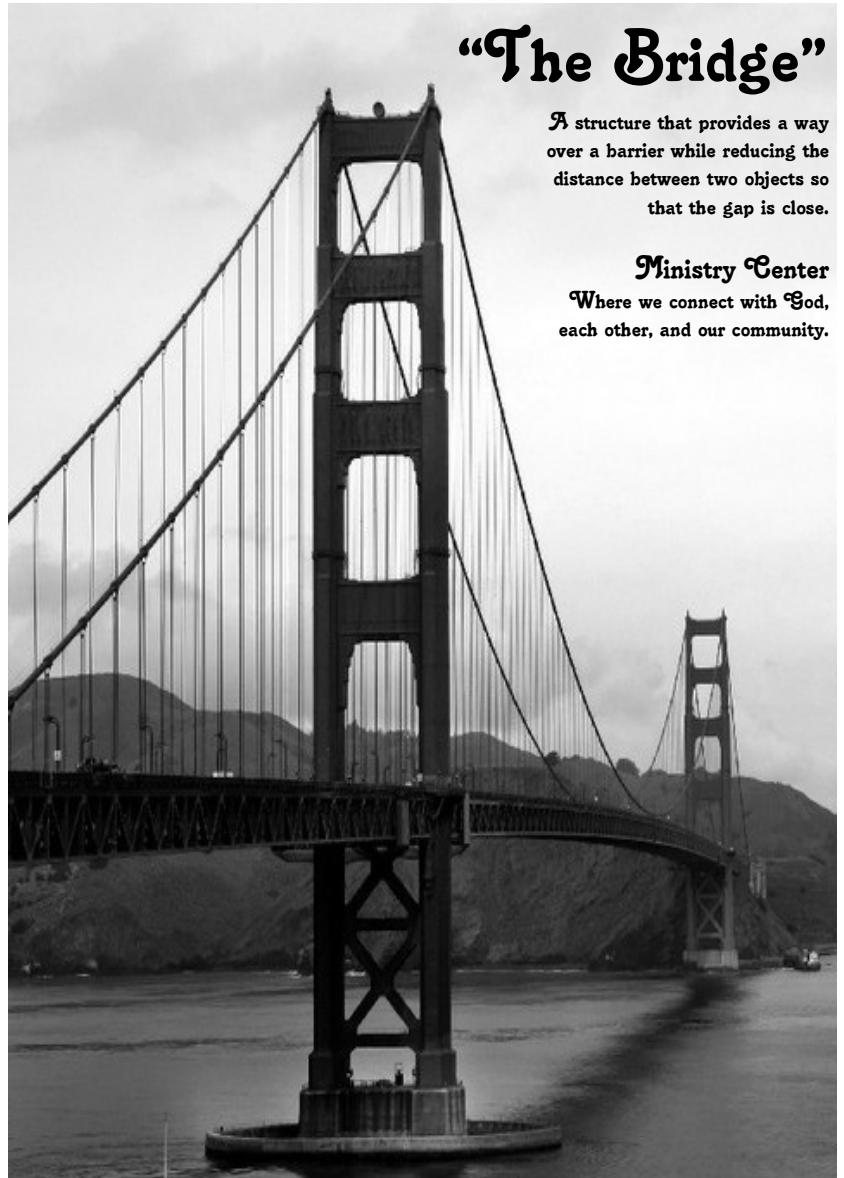


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**MISSION STATEMENT:** How we are to accomplish the vision? To connect with God, each other, and our community

**CORE VALUES:** Deep-seated convictions that drive our behavior. Vision ignites us and core values unite us. They are “shared” beliefs that we act out in our daily behavior.

## Values- What Is Most Important?

**The Bible is Our Sole Authority:** Since God's word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority, we accept it as our manual for living. Our first question when faced with a decision is "What does the Bible say?" We practice daily Bible reading, study, and memorization. The Word of God is the basis for all we believe. (2 Tim. 3:15)

**Transformed Lives:** We believe the power of the gospel actively transforms lives. The measure of effective discipleship is whether or not people's lives are being changed. All structures and programs here are geared around this. We believe that when people enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ they begin to surrender areas of their lives to Christ; from their families, careers, finances, and much more. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18, Acts 2:42-47, Acts 19:18-20)

**Reaching the Un-reached:** We believe that God's heart is filled with love for those who are far from Him. We believe that God desires a dynamic relationship with everyone He has created. The church is God's primary way for offering this message. He desires for our lives to be focused on loving those who have yet to follow Him. We practice sharing our faith and inviting our friends to church. (Luke 14:23-24, 19:10, 1 Peter 3:15, 2 Peter 3:9)

**Healthy Relationships:** We believe that God is glorified in our midst when we make His love complete by showing kindness to everyone. We believe the gospels calls us to place the goals and interests of others above our own needs. We are called to live out all the "one another" commands in the Bible. We believe this kind of real love leads to whole relationships. (Philippians 2:1-4, Colossians 3:12-14, John 13:34-35)



**Character Driven Leadership:** We believe that God is calling us to raise up a generation of leaders who live with integrity, teach ability, and humility. We believe that it is only in walking humbly with God and submitting to His Spirit that we can reach our full potential as leaders. Those who are raised up from our ministry will be those who have the heart of Christ. (John 13:12-17, James 4:6-7, 2 Peter 5:1-4)

**Mission Living:** We believe that everyone who follows Christ is called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. We believe every single person is called to have an active role in providing hope to the world around them. We believe strongly that all believers should have a personal ministry that contributes to the advancement of the Kingdom. (Matthew 5:12-16, Acts 4:32, Ephesians 2:10)

**Spirit-Led Living:** We believe that the only way to live the Christian life is by God's power within us. So we seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right. (Phil. 2:13, Eph. 5:18)

**Tithing:** We practice tithing for support of Christ's body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard of giving and also an honor. (Lev.26:30)

**Autonomy of Each Local Church:** Christ is the recognized head of our church, not any one person or group. We understand the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians to help bring unity in the body of Christ. (Col. 1:18)

**Priesthood of Every Believer:** The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to "full time" service, regardless of their vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister by encouraging *every member* to find a place of service. Every believer has direct access to God through prayer, worship, and Bible reading. (1 Peter 2:9)

# Our Beliefs

*\*We will focus on things that unite us, not the things that divide us. There are some essentials that we will agree on. The following is a simple listing.*

## About God

God is the creator and ruler of the universe. He is eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one. (Genesis 1:1, 26-27; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

## About Mankind

We are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. Although we have tremendous potential for good, we are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin". This attitude separates us from God. (Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2)

## About Eternity

We are created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or in union with Him through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are real places of eternal existence. (John 3:16; 2:25, 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; 1 John 5:11-12; Matthew 25: 31?)

## About Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-10)

## About Salvation

Salvation is a gift from God to all people. We can never make up for our sin by good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can we be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment we receive Jesus Christ into our life by faith. (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 16:6; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1)

## About Eternal Security

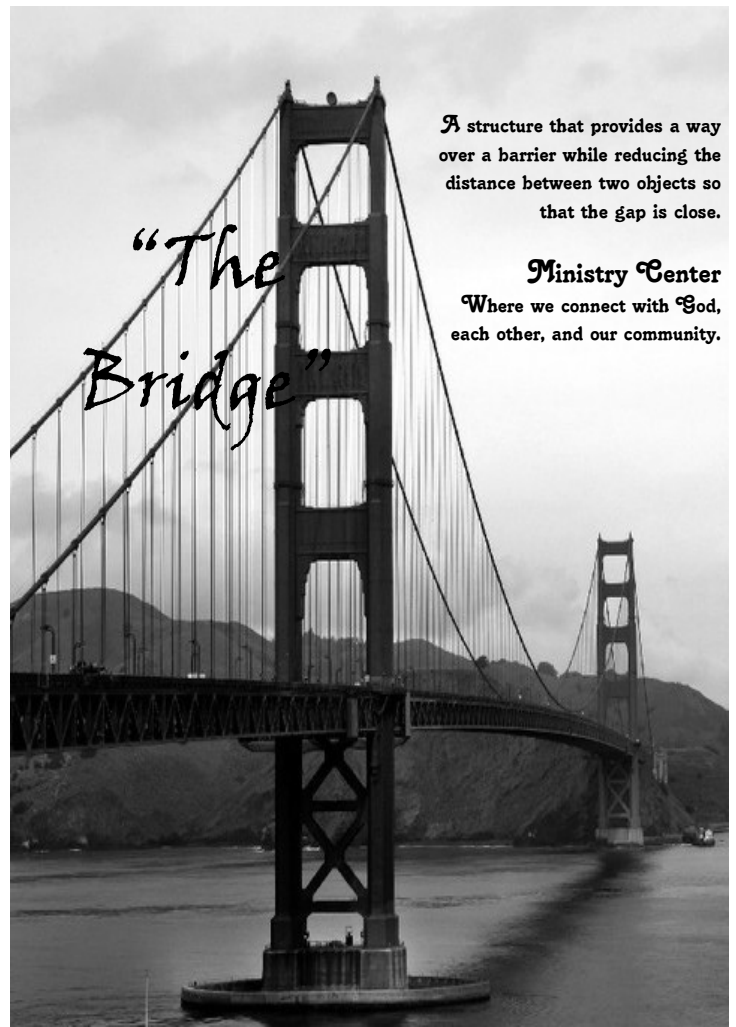
Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, we are secure in salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by our self-effort. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security. (John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25, 10:10; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

## About the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christ-follower with the power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance for doing what is right. The Christ-follower seeks to live under His control daily. (2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 1:13, 5:1)

## About the Bible

The Bible is God's word to all mankind. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105)



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## **MILE MARKERS**

**Series of events that accomplish major developments in the life of the church.**

### **Mile Marker Questions**

1. Do we have a “shared vision” of what the church is to be like?
2. Do we have a meeting place?
3. Do we have a worship team in place?
4. Have we communicated to the community who we are?
5. Do we have child care and children’s programs?
6. Do we have small group and discipleship plans in place?
7. Do we have an evangelism plan in place?
8. Do we have a greeter plan in place?
9. Do we have a set-up and take-down team in place?



- **Begin simple**
- **Get feedback**
- **Conduct rehearsals**
- **Add elements only when ready**
- **Be relevant**
- **Celebrate life change**

***Give people a ministry that believes in them, shows them we are in their corner & they will run with the vision!***

***People remember others in their life that have inspired them.***

***Visions come with passion not instruction.***

# Develop a “Dream” team

**Acts 16:10 and Eccl.4:9-10**

One of Paul’s first actions was to share with a team his vision. Notice the words “we” and “us.”

Without question this work will require a team effort. But what is a team? It is a group of people bound together by a commitment to reach a shared goal.

**Eph.4:11-13**

A team consists of a core group organized around a specific task. Tasks include set up & break down of the service, worship, child care, sound systems, small groups, greeters, evangelism, and follow-up. Etc.



## Team Characteristics

The process starts with togetherness: Most long to be part of something far greater than themselves. Togetherness takes place when every team member feels that they are making a contribution.

We need different people with different gifts, experiences, & relational styles.

Empower others to lead: Narrow your focus to a few people & make a difference in their lives, this is when multiplication happens.

Accountability: Openness, honesty, & trust in all our relationships. When this really happens success is ensured.

## Enlisting Team Members

**Pray:** (Matt.9:37-38)... When building a solid team, nothing can substitute heartfelt praying. Ask God to lead you to people of solid character who are committed to the cause of Christ & to Greenhill!

**Look:** For ways God may be answering your prayers.

**Keep:** Both eyes open for the people God is bringing into your life everyday. God works through relationships.

**Personally:** Invite people to join. People are very busy and not looking to fill up their schedule. The more vision you cast, the more you will believe in it!

**Encourage:** Often & celebrate victories.

**Set:** Small goals to create small wins.

***For us to be effective, we must develop a “whatever-it-takes,  
no matter who gets the credit attitude”. Col.3:12-14  
This is how to make it last over the long haul.***