I. Slide#1 Announce:
   A. Slide#2 Pray for a High Schooler going to camp (hand out names of youths & leaders, in italics)
   B. Slide#3 FPU (Steve & Christine Cotteen): Dave Ramsey’s financial Peace class is starting up Sun Feb 17th. (goes 9 weeks) 11:15am, during 3rd service. Cost is $100 for materials.
      1. Beginning of Program: $48K Non-Mortgage Debt per Family; $18.5K Liquid Cash Available per Family; 3 Open Credit Card Accounts per Family.
      2. End of Program: $7.8K Non-Mortgage Debt Paid Off per Family; $3.2K Saved per Family; 2.3 Credit Cards Closed or Cut Up.
         a) Sign up in info booth tonight.
   C. Prayer: Jesus you were the poor man who made many rich!

II. Slide#4 Intro:
   A. Title: Christianity’s Nuts & Bolts!
      1. When we use the informal definition for Nuts and bolts - we are talking about the essential or practical details.
      2. Paul gives us 6 practical commands for our Christianity.
         a) Six in Greek is Hex, where we get hexagon/6 sided...like our nuts & bolts.
   B. Paul ends this letter with such a peaceful & encouraging note!
   C. “This benediction is the most complete of them all. It presents the persons of the Trinity in full form.”¹ (benediction = utter a blessing, invoke God’s favor)
   D. Note the opening of his closing! - Finally brethren!
      1. Remember, this was a letter to a divided, unspiritual church. Yet, there was no distinction between those who attacked him & those who supported him.

III. Slide#5 NUTS & BOLTS! (11-13)
   A. Paul sums up this letter with 6 Practical Commands:
   B. Slide#6 [1] Farewell - χαίρω or Good-bye. But the root term is “be joyful”.
   C. (Swindoll) In other words laugh more. Let laughter spill from your life, filling the walls of your home & your workplace. Solomon said...
      1. A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones. Prov.17:22
      2. Worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up. Prov.12:25
      3. A glad heart makes a happy face; a broken heart crushes the spirit. Prov.15:13

¹ A.T. Robertson, Word Pictures in the N.T., Vol.4, pg.271
4. For the despondent, every day brings trouble; for the happy heart, life is a continual feast. Prov.15:15

D. Our 1st soul search: Am I living the joy filled life?

   1. It has in mind supplying what is missing to bring about full usefulness.
      a) It’s used for mending a torn net (Mk1:19 w/Ja&Jn). Setting a broken bone. Equipping an army w/supplies. Patching up anything that has been injured or damaged.
      b) Go onward to perfection - there is no standing still in the Christian life.
         (1) If you’re not advancing you’re slipping back!
      c) RSV translates it “Mend your ways”.
   2. See, after you make things right on the human level, you’ll enjoy fellowship on the divine level (LKGNT)
      a) Have you mended your ways after being confronted by truth from 2 Cor.?
      b) Have you been restored?
      c) What difference have these studies made in your life?
         (1) Remember, as one said, “It’s not how many books of the bible we get through, but how many books get through us!”

F. Our 2nd soul search: Am I mending my ways?

G. Slide#8 [3] Be of good comfort - παρακαλέω. To come along side. It can also be a command...to Encourage, cheer, exhort, or console one another.
   1. If exhortation - It takes a big man to listen to hard advice.
      a) Stop talking & start listening to the voice of the wise, to the voice of Jesus Christ.
   2. We can be of good comfort in following Paul’s advice, in getting our lives in order.

H. Our 3rd soul search: Do I consider my spiritual life to be in order? What’s out of order?

   1. He’s not asking for uniformity in dress or appearance or actions.
      He asking all of us to have the same focus.
   2. When we’re like-minded toward Christ, we are like-minded toward others, unselfish & open & supportive. Which is the secret of close relationships.

J. Our 4th soul search: Do I have a common purpose with my church? With my small group? With others I serve with?

1. Men must love each other before their love for God has any reality.
2. Who wants to be in an organization whose members can’t get along?
3. Do I live in peace? Do I calm the waters, or tend to stir thing up?

L. As they lived together in peace & harmony they’d receive this 2-fold promise:
   1. We can count on His divine presence - the God of love and peace will be with you.
   2. We can also count on earthly companionship....All the saints greet you (13).

M. Our 5th soul search: Do I live in His peace or just visit it once in a while? Would my friends say I live in peace?

N. Slide#11 [6] Greet one another w/a holy kiss - [maybe today a holy hug, or a holy fist bump, or my favorite...the triple shoulder pat] [double/u just wanna be done - quatre/its gettin a lil weird now] :) 
   1. He’s telling them to be affectionate with one another.
   2. Not impure or sensual. As, the men sat with the men & women with the women.

O. The early Christians were known for their visible expressions of love. But later it grew more formal.
   1. Slide#12 The church eventually came up with the Pax-Board or Peace Plate.
      a) It was used in the Middle Ages to convey the kiss of peace to the faithful.
         (1) They’d say, “Pax tecum” (Peace be w/you)
      b) In 1250 Archbishop Walter in England introduced the Pax–board that had been kissed by the clergy & was then passed among the congregation to be kissed.
      c) It was a plaque of metal, ivory, or wood, generally decorated with some pious carving and provided with a handle.
         (1) Where’s the warmth in that? - Greet one another w/a holy board???

P. Our 6th soul search: Do I show appropriate affection to my brothers & sisters? Inappropriate? Or, none at all? (maybe a better word would be warmth/or caring)

IV. Slide#13 THE TRINITY’S TRIPLE BLESSING! (14)

A. The benediction (utter a blessing) of the Trinity.
B. Slide#14a The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ - 
   1. This takes us back to Bethlehem, where He became poor for us.
C. Slide#14b The love of God - 
   1. This takes us back to Calvary, where God The Father’s love gave us His Son.
D. Slide#14c The communion/Koinonia of the Holy Spirit - [fellowship/participation which has the HS as its object]
1. This takes us back to **Pentecost**, where The Spirit baptized all believers into the body of Christ.

E. The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ
   1. **Slide#15a** The grace manifested by Christ.
   2. When a person works an eight-hour day and receives a fair day’s pay for his time, that is a **wage**. When a person competes with an opponent and receives a trophy for his performance, that is a **prize**. When a person receives appropriate recognition for his long service or high achievements, that is an **award**. But when a person is not capable of earning a wage, can win no prize, and deserves no award - yet receives such a gift anyway - that is a good picture of **God’s unmerited favor**.

F. The **love** of God
   1. **Slide#15b** The love expressed by the Father.
   2. There is a natural, logical kind of loving that loves lovely things and lovely people.
      a) That’s logical. But there is another kind of loving that doesn’t look for value in what it loves, but that creates value in what it loves. Like a small child’s rag doll.

G. The **communion/fellowship** of the **Holy Spirit**
   1. **Slide#15c** The fellowship created by the Holy Spirit.
      a) This word *fellowship* originates in the relationship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have with one another.
   2. **Ps.55:14 NLT** helps us define **fellowship**. What good **fellowship** we once enjoyed as we walked together to the house of God.
      a) The root of *fellowship* means Common or shared.
      b) It’s a common participation in something either by giving & receiving.

H. **Slide#16** Amen - So be it. I agree. Action!