

Others



Romans 12:15-16



- Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
 - A man is beaten and almost dead, two religious leaders pass him by without helping a man in desperate need of help
 - Jesus doesn't tell us why they don't help
 - They were too busy? They didn't want to be unclean? They didn't have any training?
 - Maybe because it doesn't really matter? Point is they didn't help at all.



You shall ... love your
neighbor as yourself

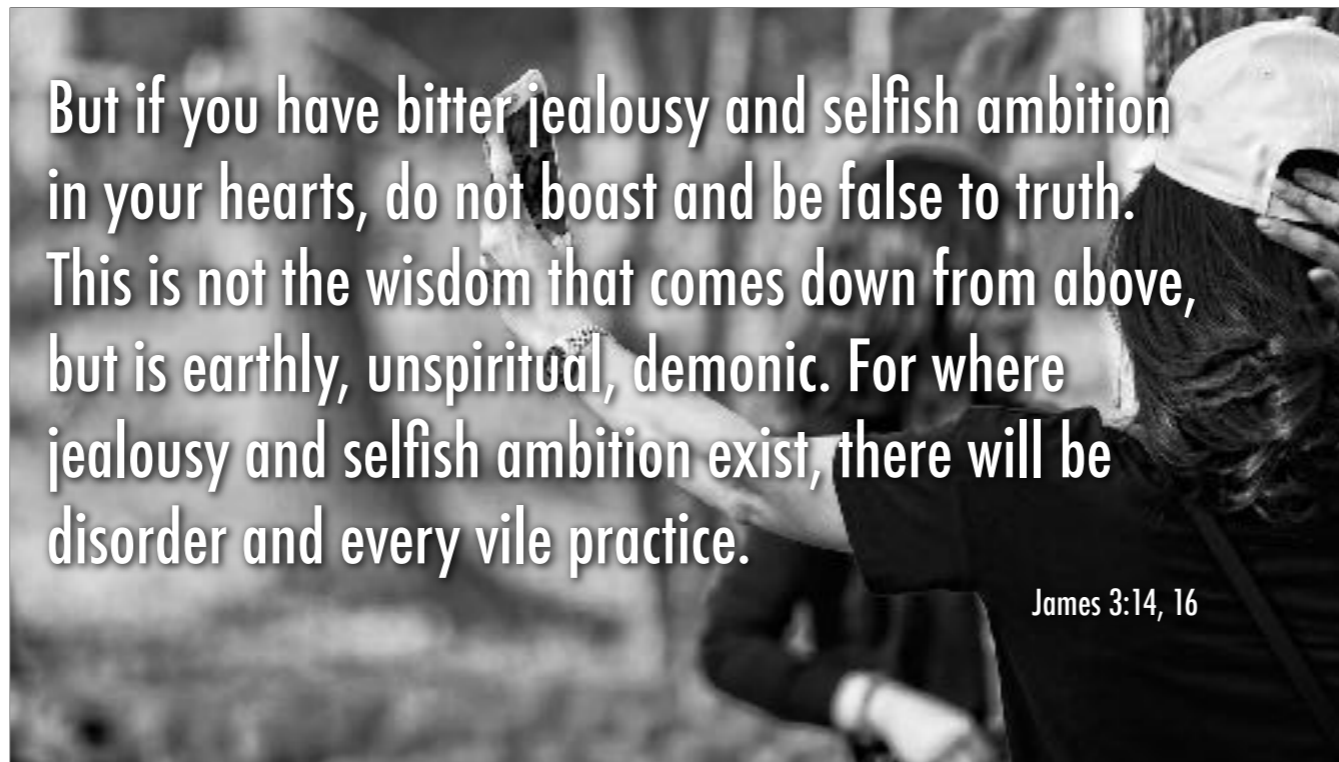
Luke 10:27

- Jesus used this to teach about the importance of loving your neighbor (27), answering who is my neighbor (29).
 - Ends parable with this question
 - 36 Which of these three, do you think, **proved to be a neighbor** to the man who fell among the robbers?”
 - 37 He said, “The one who **showed him mercy.**”
 - And Jesus said to him, “**You go, and do likewise.**”
 - Not about theory. Practice.

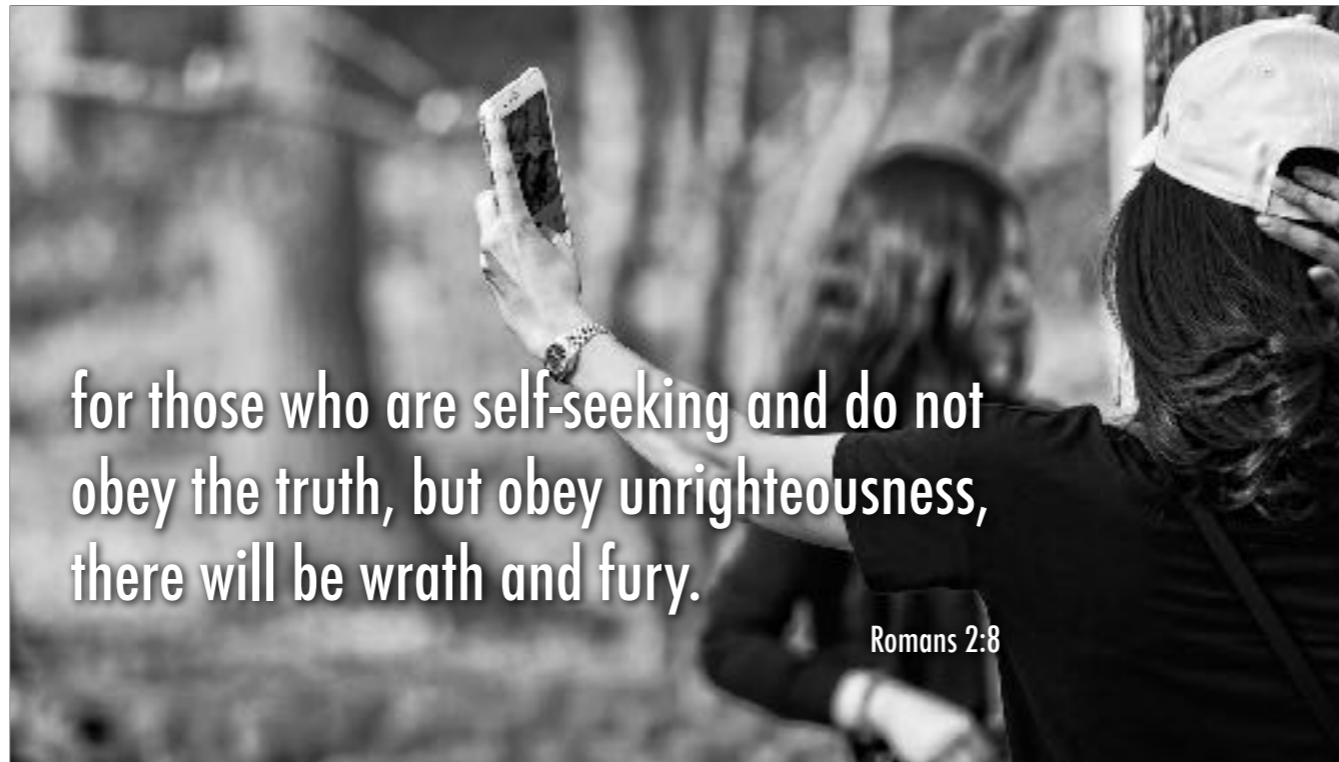


- So what is at the root of the failure of the levite and priest to help?
 - Selfishness.
 - They loved themselves (however they justified it) more than others.
- Religious leaders who don't understand what God really desires of his children.
- Christians are repeatedly warned of this danger of selfishness

- James 3



- James 3:14-16 (ESV) 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.



for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

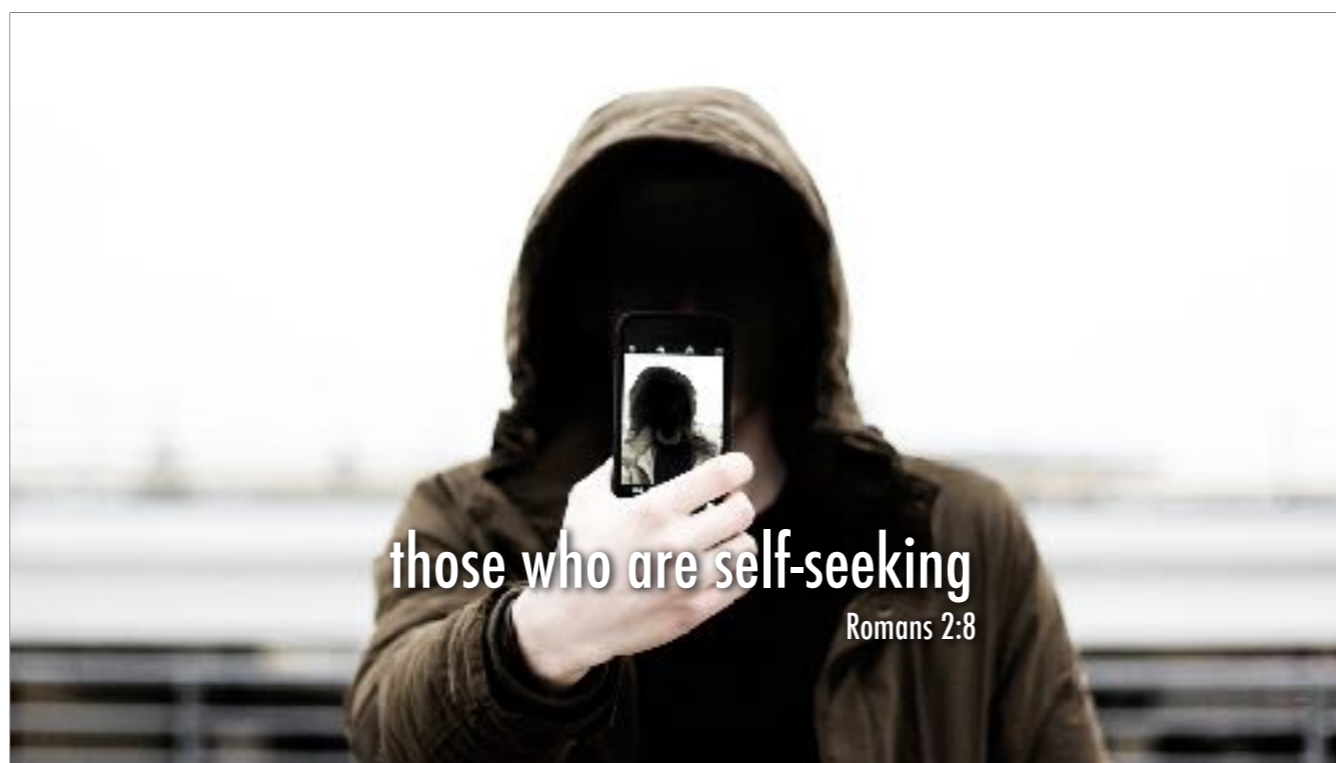
Romans 2:8

- Romans 2:8 (ESV) 8 but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

•



- What does a self-seeking Christian look like?
- What does it mean that as a disciple of Jesus I am too self-involved?
- What is the danger of being a self-involved Christian, instead of being part of a family of believers?
- disobedience, rejection of truth, vile practices, disorder



- Jesus graphically described the Pharisees:
- Matthew 6
 - 1 Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.
 - Giving to the needy; Prayer; Fast
 - Anxious: life, eat, drink, wear
 - Matthew 6:31-33 (ESV) 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.



- Matthew 23

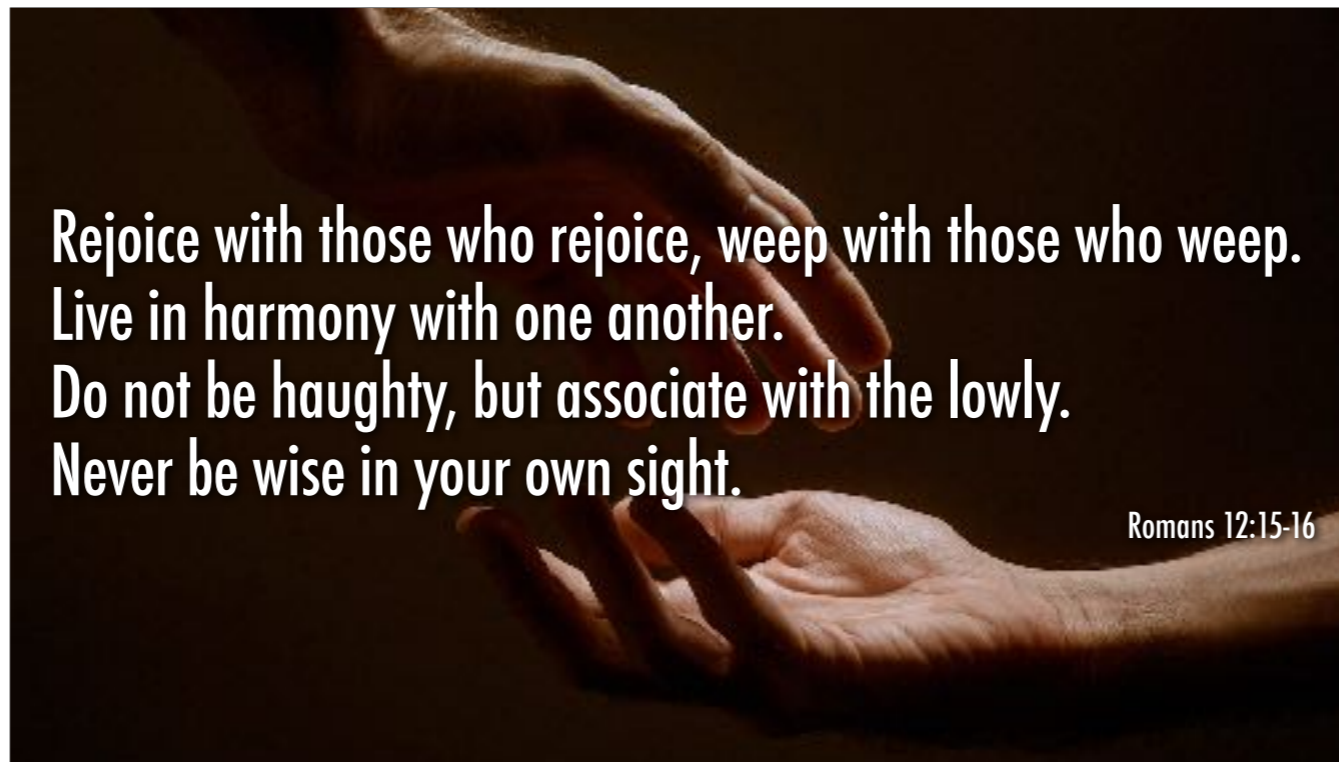
- Matthew 23:5-7 (ESV) 5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, 6 and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues 7 and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others.
- Matthew 23:25-26 (ESV) 25 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. 26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean.



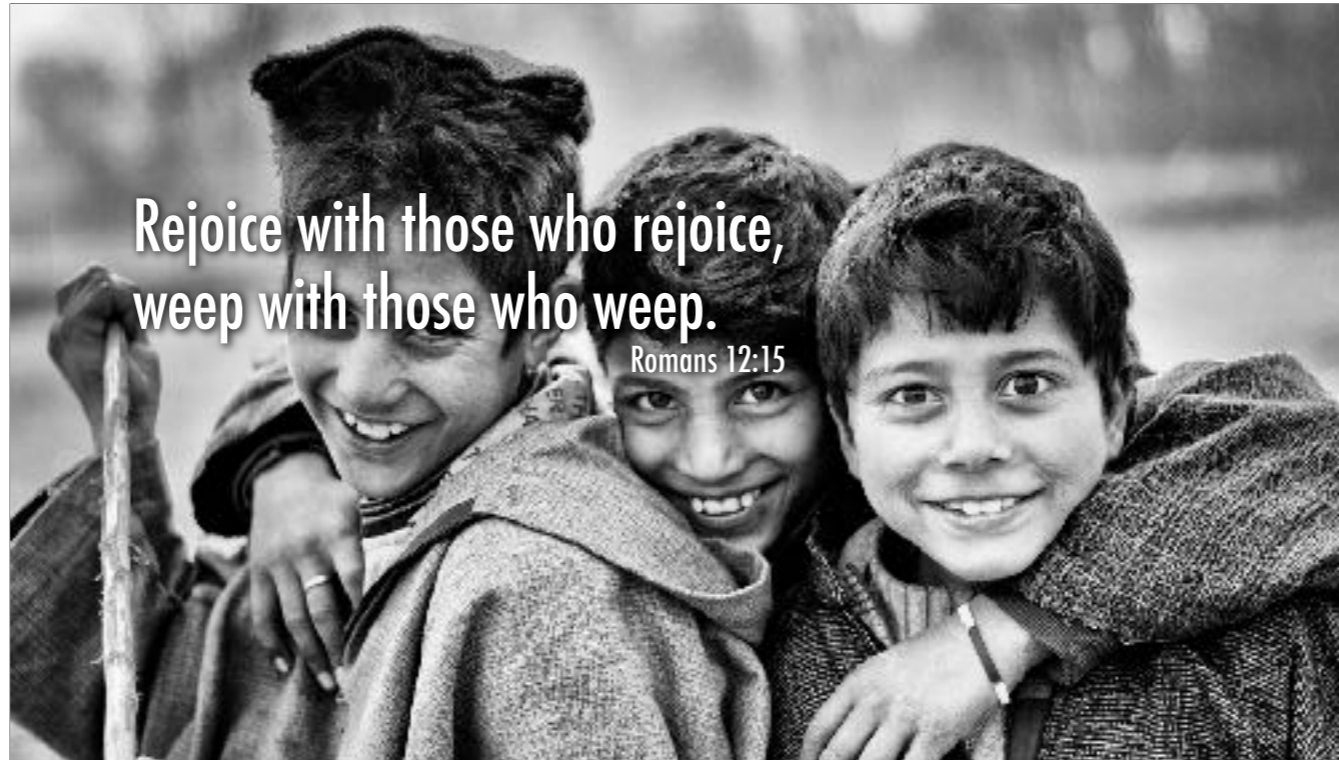
- The Selfish Christian....
- Church is about me.
 - Nobody talked to me. Who did you talk to?
 - The Singing
 - The lesson
- Praying is about me (Like Pharisee)
 - Luke 18:11-12 (ESV) 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.'
- Bible study is about me.
- No matter how righteous they appear outwardly (cultivated that image) ... inside it's all about me.



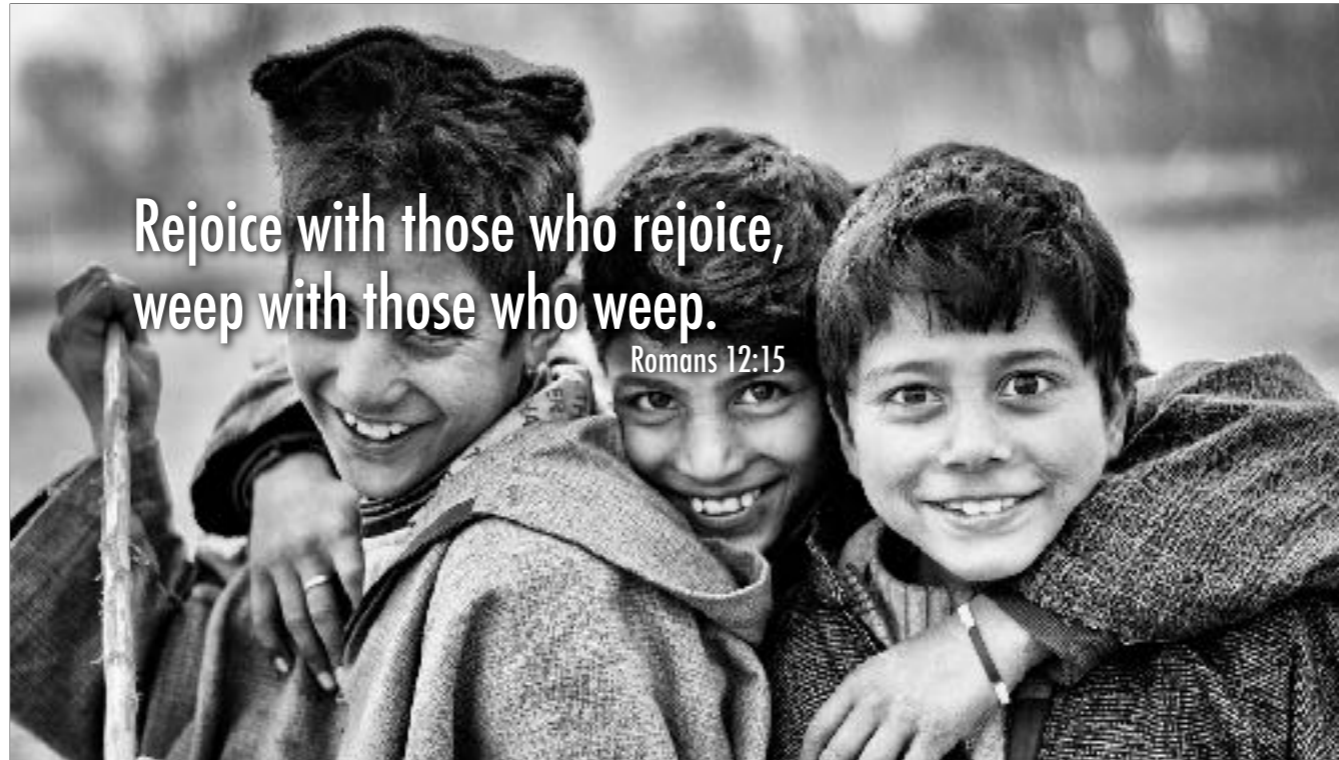
- Romans 12:2 (ESV) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



- Romans 12:15-16 (ESV) 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.



- Romans 12:15-16 (ESV) 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
- Too often we are just acquaintances (at best), but sometimes strangers meeting a few times together.
- Mutual sympathy and empathy
- Must be sharing our lives with one another.
 - Communication.

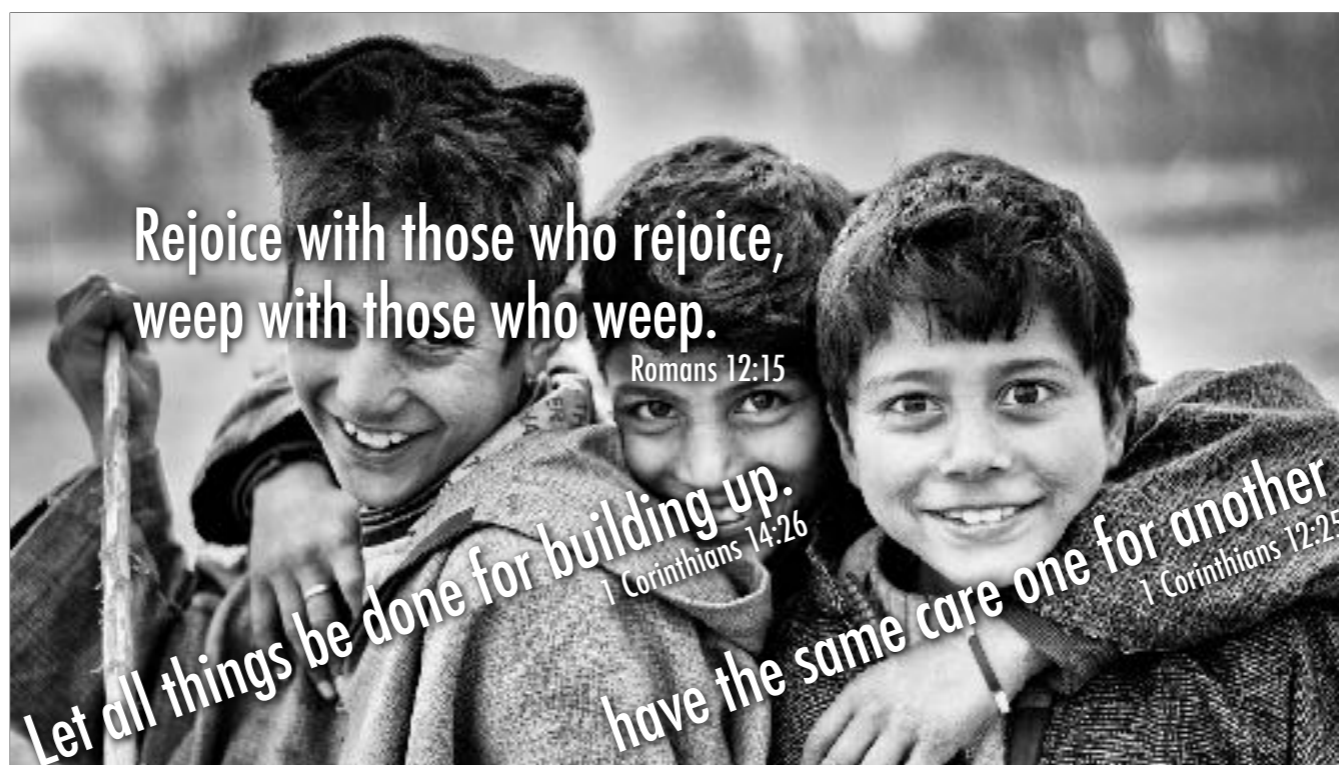


- The Struggle of the Corinthians

- 1 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV) 10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.
- Gifts given to help the church: prophecy and tongues.
 - Turned into selfishness and self promotion



- 1 Corinthians 14:26 (ESV) 26 What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. **Let all things be done for building up.**
 - 1 Corinthians 12:18 (ESV) But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:24-25 (ESV) But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have **the same care for one another.**



- 1 Corinthians 12:24-25 (ESV) But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have **the same care for one another**.



- **the same care for one another.**

- Thayer: to care for, look out for (a thing)to seek to promote one's interests; caring or providing for

- (TDNT - Abridged) In Mt. 6:25ff. merimnán is self-concern relative to the future.

- Matthew 6:25 (ESV) 25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

- 1 Corinthians 12:26 (ESV) 26 If one member suffers, **all suffer together**; if one member is honored, **all rejoice together**.



- What are you doing to rejoice or weep with others who are here?
- And those not here?



- 16 Live in harmony with one another.
 - (NASB) 16 Be of the same mind toward one another
- Roman saints quarreling over eating meat was okay, or if we should eat only vegetables. (Romans 14)
 - 7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.
 - 19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.
 - 20 Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God.
- Romans 15:1-7 (ESV)
 - 1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
 - 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
 - 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."
 - 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
 - 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.



- 16 Live in harmony with one another.
 - (NASB) 16 Be of the same mind toward one another
- Roman saints quarreling over eating meat was okay, or if we should eat only vegetables. (Romans 14)
 - 7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.
 - 19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.
 - 20 Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God.
- Romans 15:1-7 (ESV)
 - 1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
 - 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
 - 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."
 - 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
 - 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

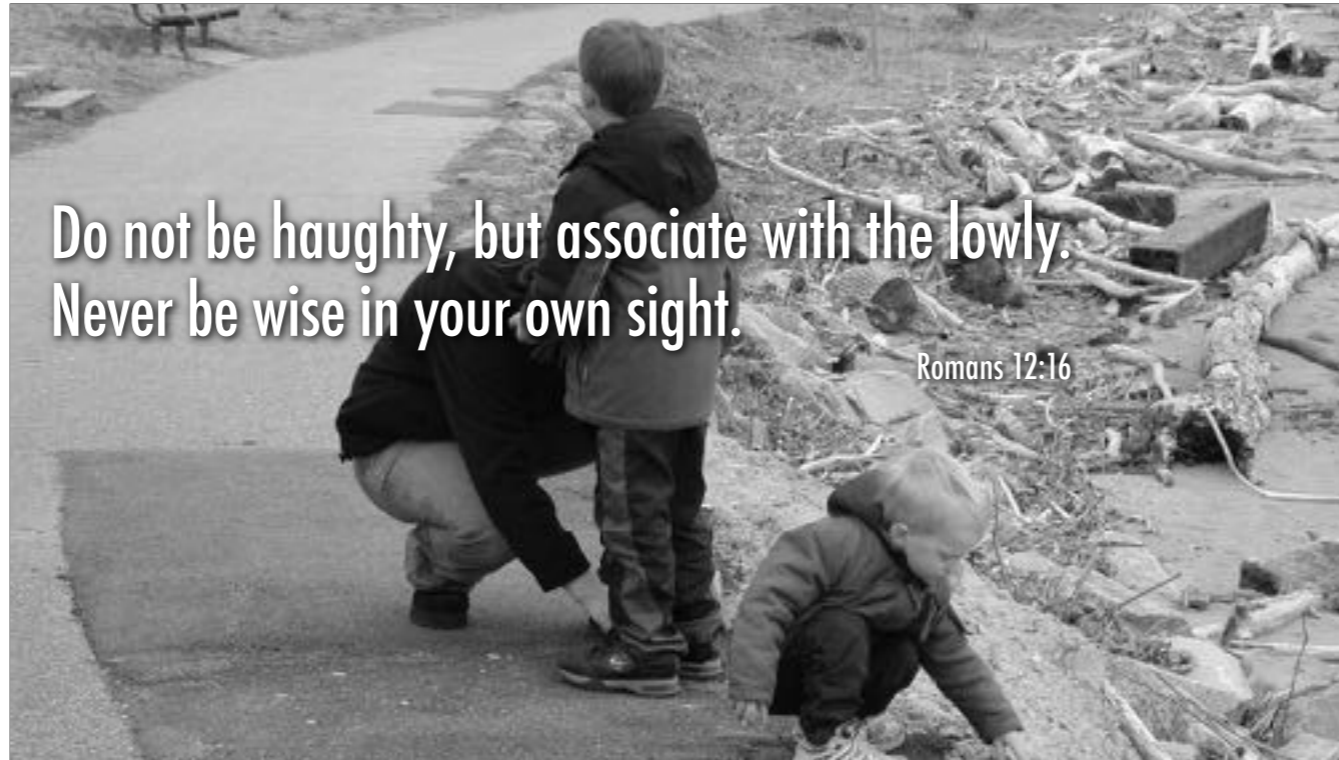


- Romans 15:1-7 (ESV) 1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
 - 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
 - 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.”
 - 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

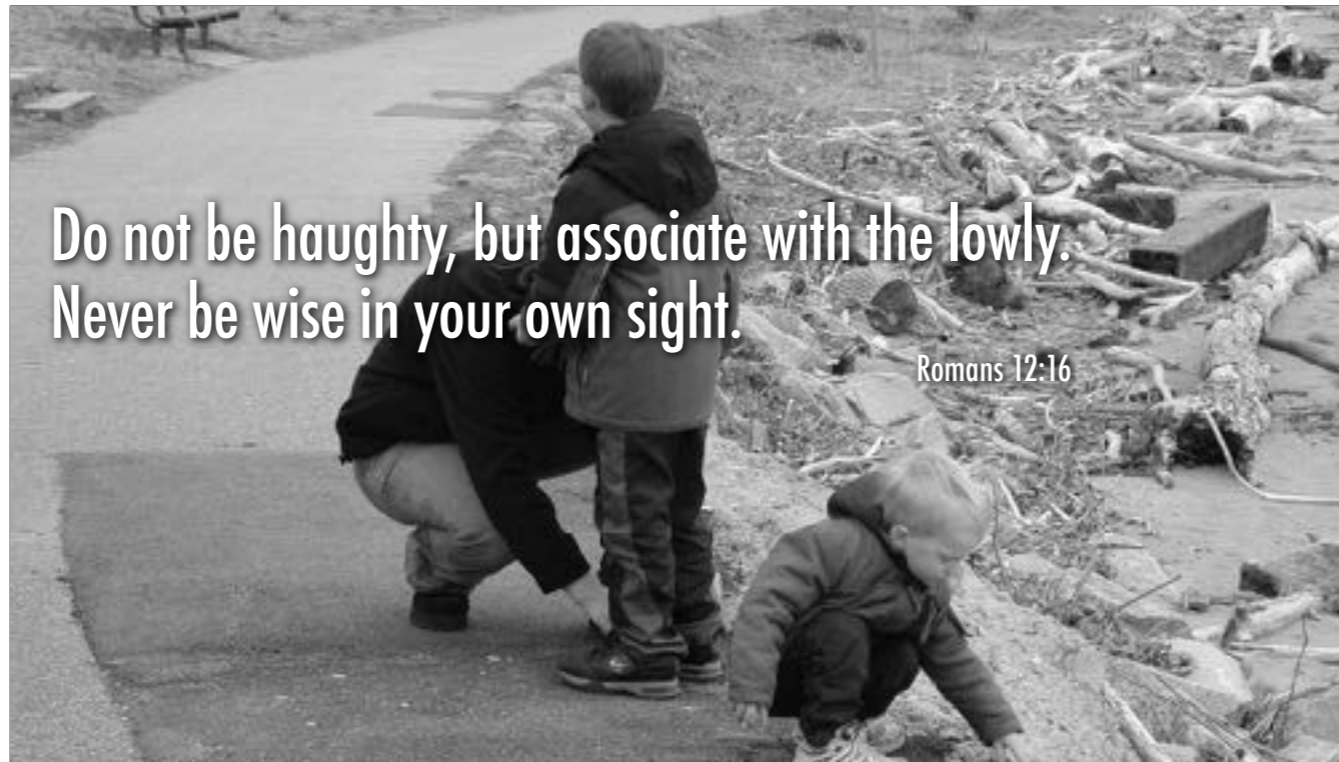


- 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

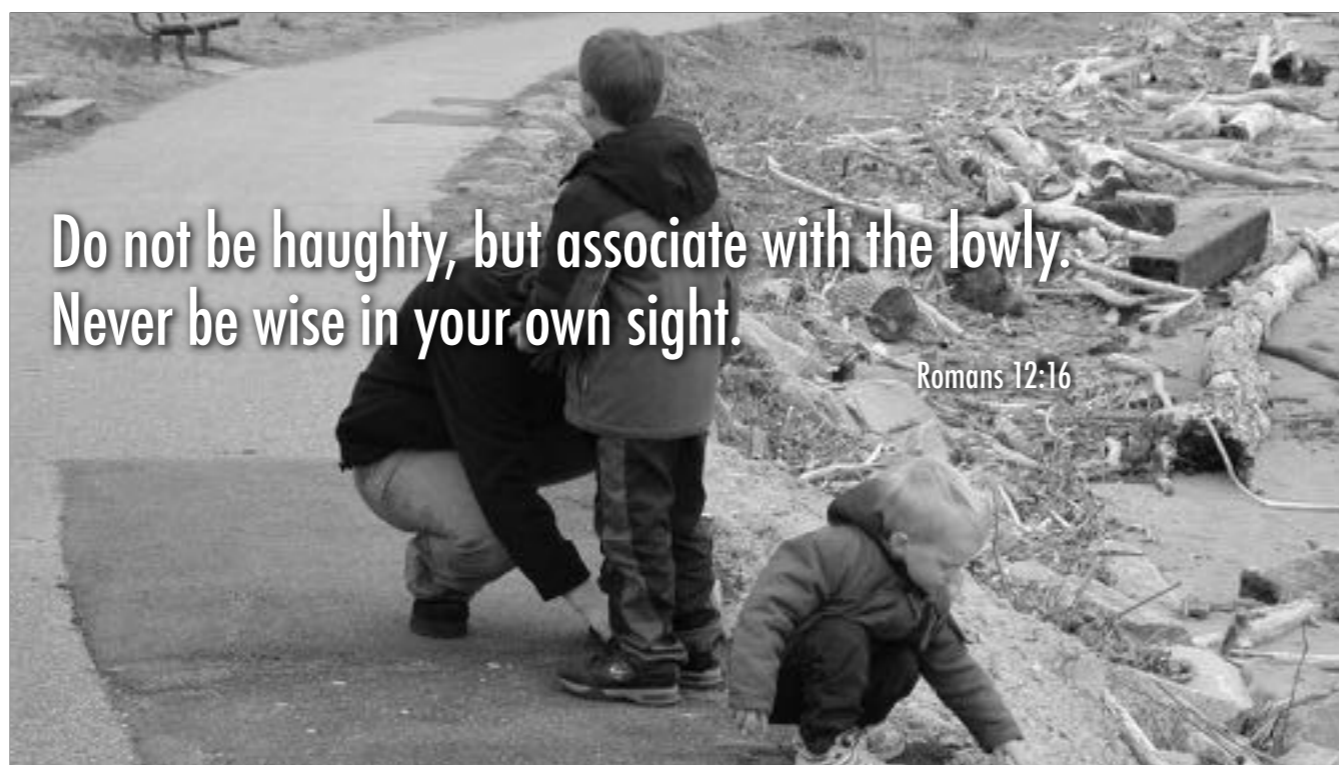
- What are you doing to be like minded/in harmony with each other?
- How are you building up another?
- How are you welcoming?



- 16 Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.
- Romans 12:3 (ESV) 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.



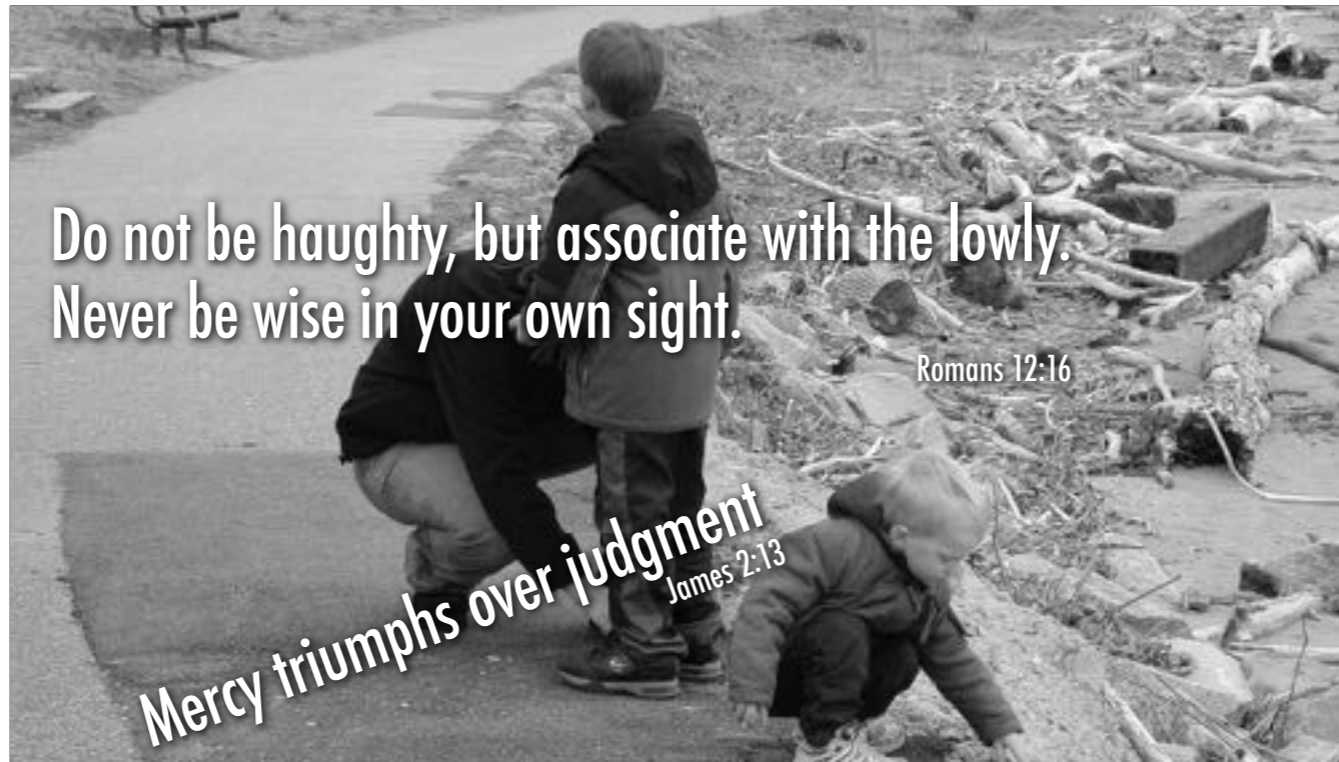
- James 2:1-13 (ESV) 1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” 4 **have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?**
- Root? Why partial?
 - Self serving selfishness



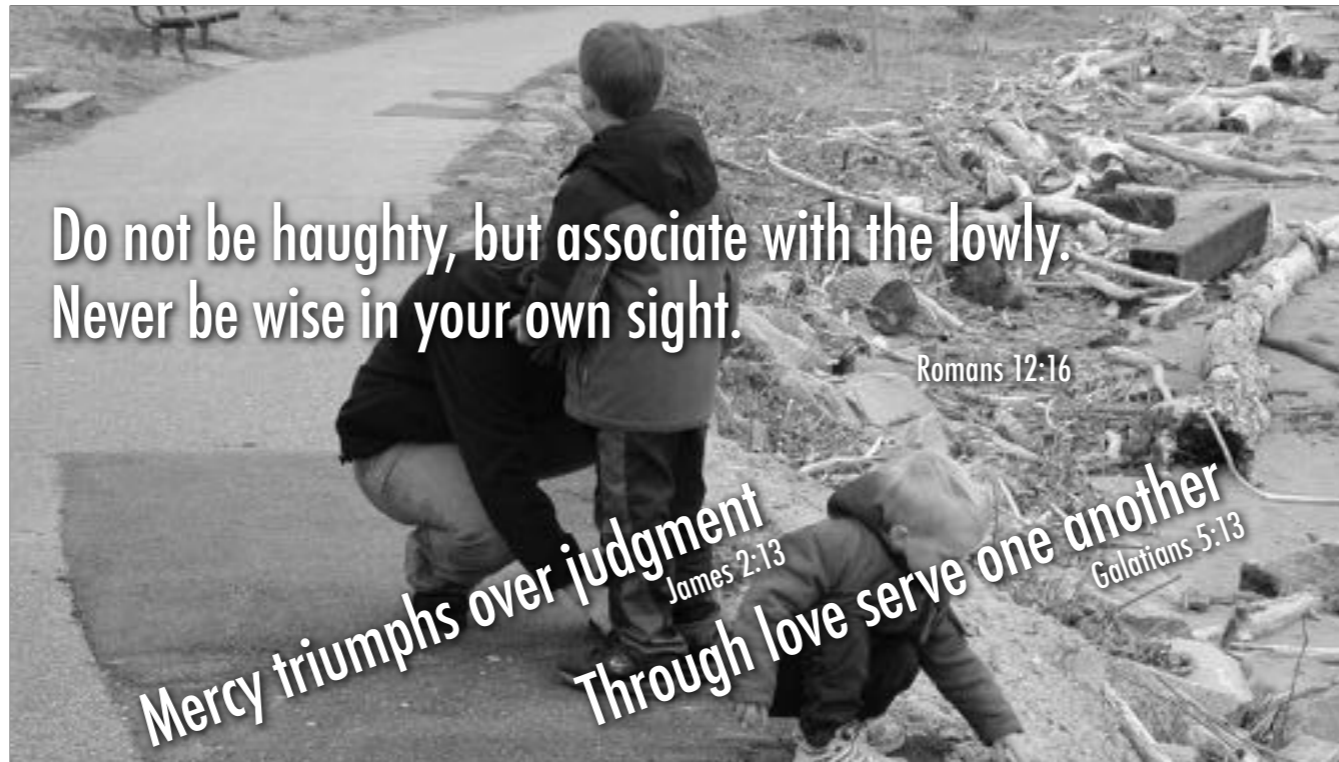
Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.
Never be wise in your own sight.

Romans 12:16

- 5 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? 8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.



- 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. 11 For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. **13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.**
- When someone joins us and they don't meet our standard of appearance. Condemn ... selfish. Or when they meet our standard... selfish?
- Mercy!



Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.
Never be wise in your own sight.

Romans 12:16

Mercy triumphs over judgment
James 2:13

Through love serve one another
Galatians 5:13

- Galatians 5:13-15 (ESV) 13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



- All of this is reminding us that we are not to be selfish, solitary Christians.
- The Spirit is reminding us that it's about OTHERS.
 - Bible study is about others.
 - Prayers are about others.
 - Church is about others.
 - Of course, worshipping God.
 - But too often we neglect others, or condemn others.
 - Must find ways to build up.
 - Time together
 - Communication
 - Sacrifice for others.
- Pick someone this week and focus on building them up.
- Pick someone who is lowly.



- Are we so involved in ourselves that we “pass by on the other side”?

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Photo Credits:

All photos from istockphoto.com, crestock.com, bigstock.com, dreamtime.com, thinkstock.com, and shutterstock.com are copyright protected. They are used by permission. Please do not reuse without permission.)

iStock_000004879011

iStock_000014338934

<https://pixabay.com/photos/arm-hand-body-woman-smartphone-3345706/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/selfie-mobile-phone-portrait-hood-1209886/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/hand-hands-ascension-community-5216581/>

123rf.com: 45282602_xl

<https://pixabay.com/photos/boys-friends-poor-black-and-white-1283786/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/live-age-time-movement-human-pair-1379446/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/girl-father-portrait-eyes-people-1641215/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/49502985672@N01/6734913>

Others

Romans 12:15-16

Synopsis: The world insists that I must focus on myself first and foremost. Our transformation in Christ reminds us that we must develop sympathy, harmony, and humility as we serve others.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

“Let all that you do be done with love.”