

Living in Harmony (Rom12:14-16)

If we are able to trust each other, then the world will become a totally different place. However, the problem is not being able to trust each other but the problem is that we cannot even trust ourselves. Those who know who they are know who God is and those who truly know God knows who they truly are. The reason we do not correctly know ourselves is because we do not know how our heart really works. Generally, the heart expresses the person's personality as a whole and acts as the main element that triggers people to act. Human beings were fundamentally created in God's image. A fundamental problem of sin fell upon man who was at first good like God, and hence distorted their very image. From that moment on, man no longer lives as their true created selves but as people who live behind their nicely presented mask. All sin takes form as goodness. If the light of the gospel is not continuously shining, we will continue to live a life that deceives ourselves as well as others because we become so accustomed to this false goodness. When God shines the light of the gospel through Christ, all lies are exposed. And when the goodness and the righteousness of Christ is applied to us, we will live in harmony trusting in one another, loving one another and establishing God's kingdom all within the gospel.

1.If we do not know the gospel, we will live as enemies with God and one another (Rom12:14-16)

- 1)Those who are outside of Christ are ignorant of the spiritual reality
- 2)We can only have thoughts of the flesh that antagonizes God (8:7)
- 3)Therefore, without knowing we persecute those who enjoy the gospel (v14) 4)Whether it is verbally or internally, we will curse those who do not match our standards (14)
- 5)Because we view all things as a competition (Gen 3:5) we cannot rejoice or mourn with one another (15)
- 6)Because our hearts are divided we cannot be one with even those who are the closest (16)
- 7)Our hearts will always want to be praised and will always think that we are right(16)
- 8)Even though our hearts are filled with sin, because we have become desensitized to sin, we believe that we are good people

2.As much we truly believe the gospel, we will be able to live a life that God desires for us to live(Rom12:14-16)

- 1)We will believe that there is no good within us(3:10-12)
- 2)We will live a good life as much as God's righteousness is relayed onto us through Christ (17)
- 3)Once we start to enjoy Christ, we will inevitably be persecuted because of Satan's schemes(14)
- 4)However, because we see those who persecute us as spiritual beings instead of cursing them we will bless them(14)
- 5)Just like how Christ was with sinners, we too, will rejoice and mourn with each other(15)
- 6)As much as we realize the gospel, we will have of heart like Christ's(16)
- 7)We will become humble and we will know that all things that are good comes from Christ alone (16)