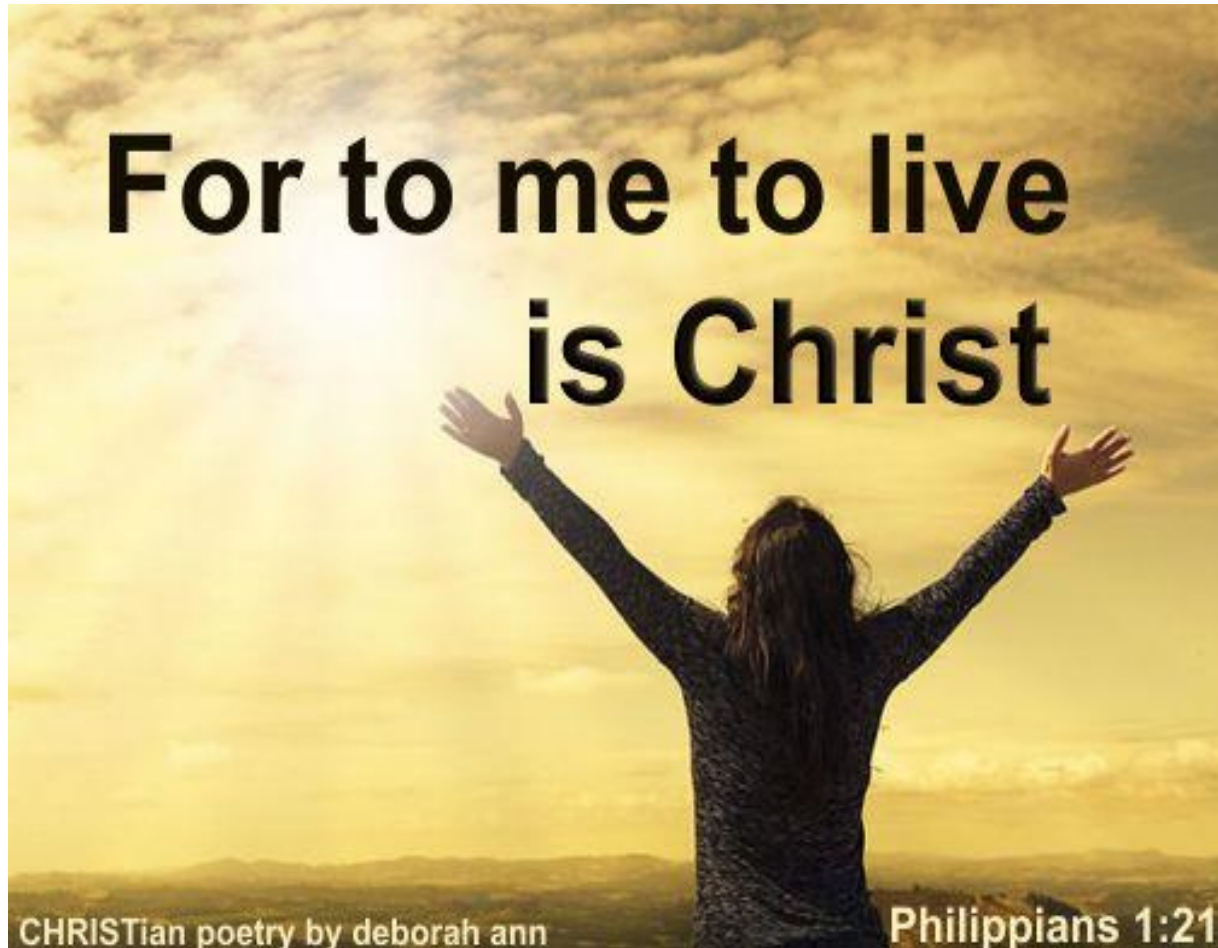


Am I living my life for Christ?

Philippians 1:27-2:11

# To live for Christ



Partnership with God:

- more like Christ
- spread the gospel.

Correct motivation:

- Christ must be preached, exalted and boasted

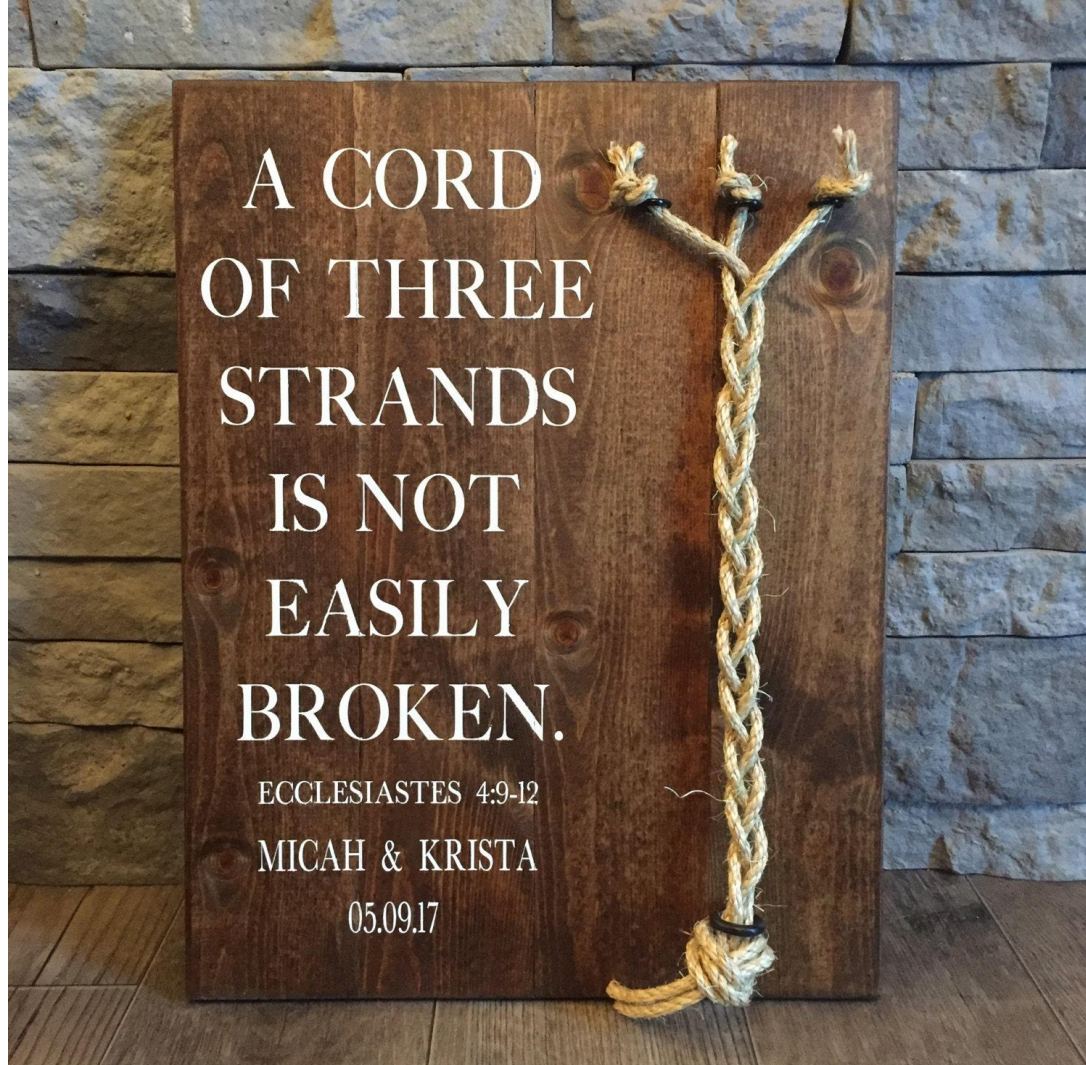
# Life for Christ must be consistent

- <sup>27</sup> Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.

# Consistency means

- Daily conduct should be worthy of the gospel of Christ...lived for God, not for men
- From the heart, not hypocritical
- Persevere in suffering
- A privilege to share in Christ suffering as Paul was (29-30)

# Unity is key



Stand firm and strive together as one

- Unity is important for victorious living ....for Christ

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

IF YOU ARE INSULTED BECAUSE OF  
**THE NAME OF CHRIST,**  
YOU ARE BLESSED,  
FOR THE SPIRIT OF GLORY  
AND OF GOD RESTS ON YOU.

**1 PETER 4:14**



- Do we view suffering for Christ a blessing?

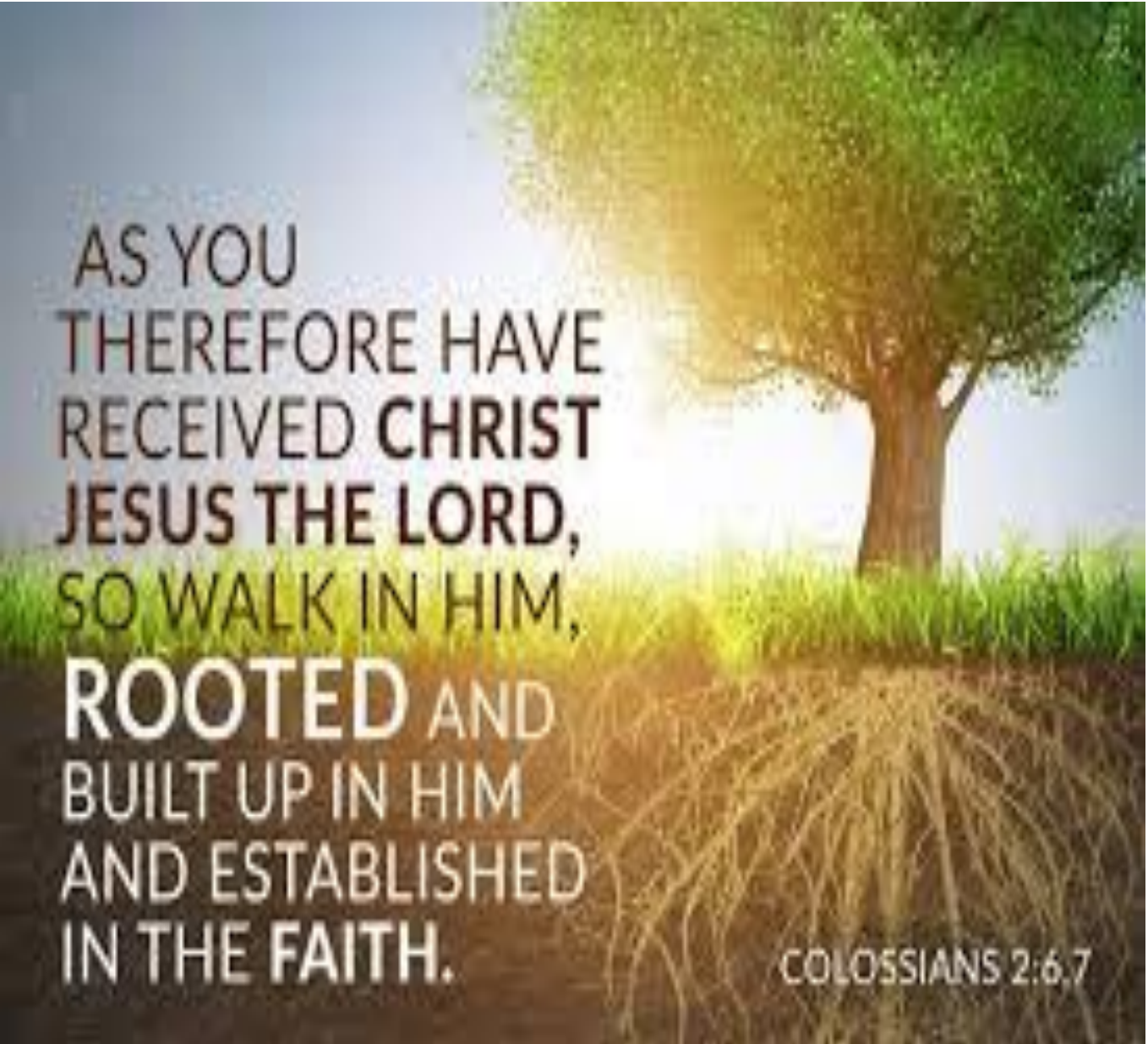
# Consistent conduct in relationship

- **2** Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

# Union with Christ

- Community living must begin with our experience in Christ
- Impact how we relate to one another.
- Experience the comfort of His love, tenderness and compassion through His Spirit



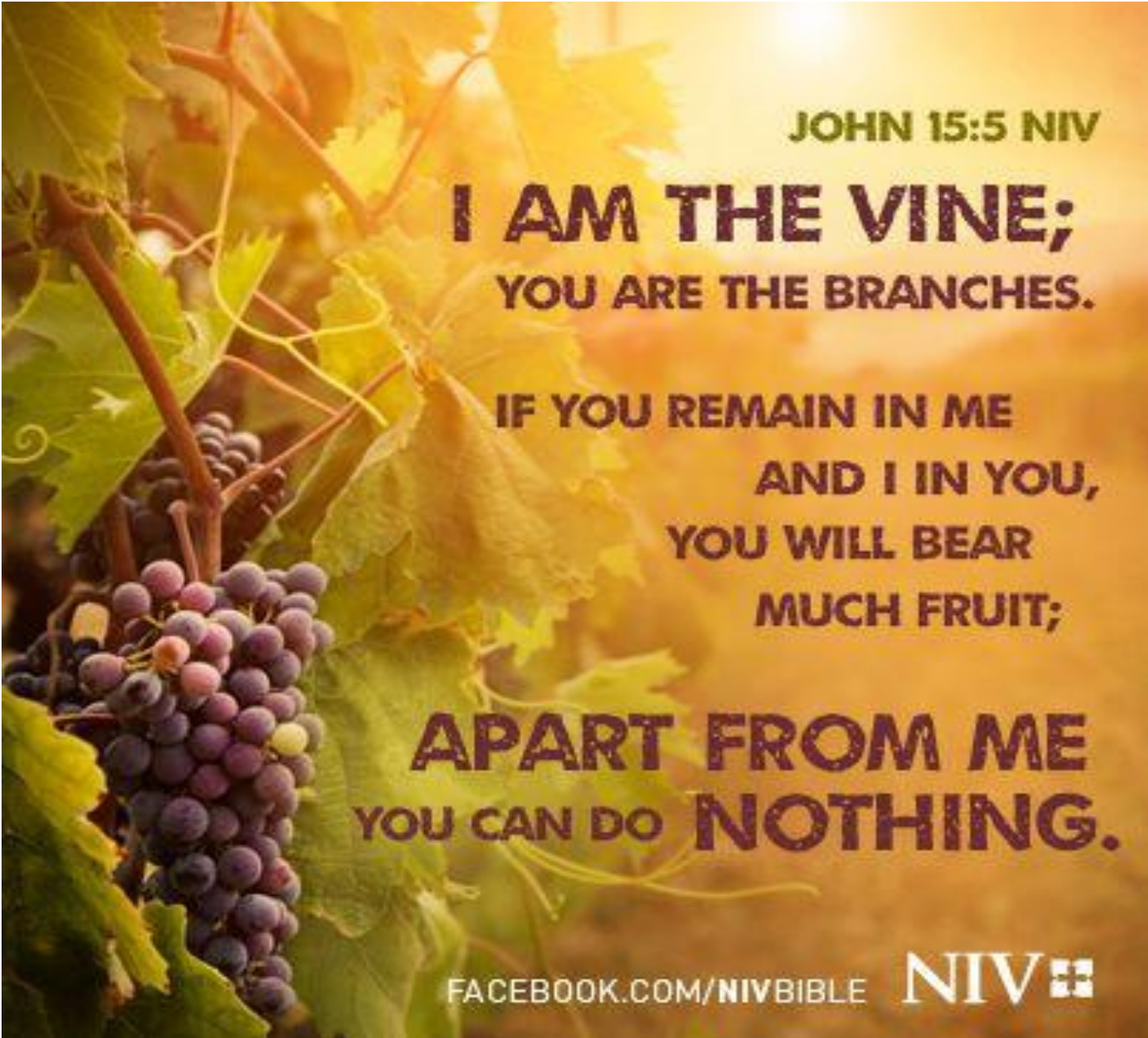


AS YOU  
THEREFORE HAVE  
RECEIVED **CHRIST**  
**JESUS THE LORD,**  
SO WALK IN HIM,  
**ROOTED** AND  
BUILT UP IN HIM  
AND ESTABLISHED  
IN THE FAITH.

COLOSSIANS 2:6,7

# After receiving Christ

- Continue in Christ:  
Walk in Him, rooted  
and built up in in  
Him...  
(Colossians 2:6-7)




JOHN 15:5 NIV

**I AM THE VINE;  
YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.**

**IF YOU REMAIN IN ME  
AND I IN YOU,  
YOU WILL BEAR  
MUCH FRUIT;**

**APART FROM ME  
YOU CAN DO NOTHING.**

FACEBOOK.COM/NIVBIBLE **NIV** 

In Christ we  
live fruitfully

**Unattached branch:**

- is a dead branch
- is fruitless



- All are united with Christ .. experience His love
- Should be like-minded..... mindset of Christ

- <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

**Do not be selfish or proud  
in our relationship**

# Be humble with one another



Do nothing out of  
selfish ambition or  
vain conceit. Rather,  
in humility value  
others above  
yourselves,  
Philippians 2:3

- Paul is dealing with disagreement (4:3)
- Our actions should:
- Selfless (in ambition)
  - Self humbling

## Genesis 13:8-9

8 So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

*"Abram said to Lot: 'Please, there should be no quarreling between me and you and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers.'" Genesis 13:8, 9*



# Example of selflessness

- Abram was selfless with Lot, his nephew....even though it was his right to take the first choice
- He trusted God to fulfill His promise despite not claiming his right to first choice

# Selfish ambition or pride

- Is the pattern of the world...
- Workplace or institution...promotion is based on merit or favoritism
- Prioritize time and energy for work...to get our ambition
- At the expense of God, family and self (health)



# Danger for us

- We prioritize work and claim it is for God, but the reality...
- We lack trust in God for the promotion or business contract

Instead, we should:


- Prioritize God first
- Trust Him to prosper us...despite the restricted time and opportunity

# Another danger

- Obsessed with claiming our rights and blessings as God's children.
- ambition... for God to bless us and family
- We think:  
God's chief purpose is to please us and bless us.

# Selfless ambition....

**BUT SEEK FIRST  
THE KINGDOM  
OF GOD AND HIS  
RIGHTEOUSNESS,  
AND ALL THESE  
THINGS WILL BE  
ADDED TO YOU.  
MATTHEW 6:33**

 Bible Study Quest

- The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever



I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them **garbage** that I may gain Christ.

Philippians 3:8

- Rejected his heritage as a Benjamite Jew, position as a Pharisee and his zeal ...
- to gain Christ... his ambition

# Value others above yourselves

- Consider others better than yourself
- Pride places self before others but humility, others before self
- Do not judge because we cannot judge fairly (Romans 2:1-3)
- Beware of the Pharisee in us... prone to judge out of spiritual pride

# Value others above yourselves

- Value their opinions.... be quick to listen
- Give credit and praise freely when due... to encourage growth
- Failure... be gracious



**NOT LOOKING TO YOUR  
OWN INTERESTS BUT  
EACH OF YOU TO THE  
INTERESTS OF THE  
OTHERS**

**PHILIPPIANS 2:4**

- Natural to tend to our interest.....
- Commanded to put the interest of others at least on par with your own.
- Love your neighbor as yourself

# Consider the interest of others

- Clash of interest is inevitable...need to put the other's interest first
- trust God for your own interests when you consider others
- Trust God to ensure you will not lose out.



# Mindset of Christ...His example

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

- <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

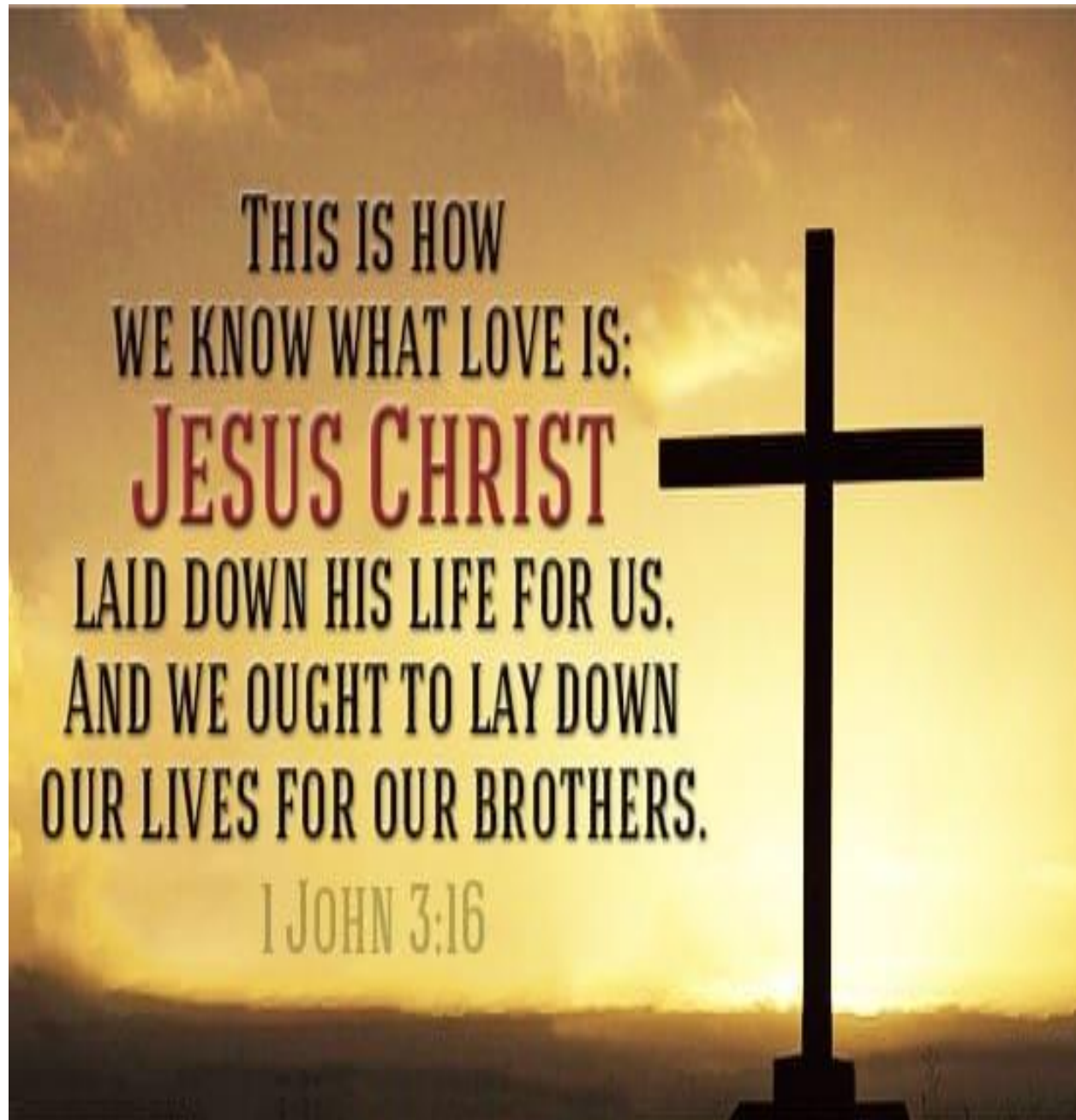
# Relationships: mindset of Christ

- Sacrificial
- Obedient
- Restorative

# Sacrificial

- set aside His Glory and Majesty as God
- lowered himself... become a human servant
- He looked to our interest and lowered himself to serve us.

Considered our interest



- Love sacrificially
- Love practically:  
Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth  
( 1 John 3:18)

# Humble and obedient

- Born and lived in poverty.
- Rejected by His own people.
- Suffered cruelly at the hands of enemies and died a cruel death...the cross.

For us He

- removed the power of sin
- removed the barrier and restored us to God

# Restorative

God restored his Majesty and Glory...

- exalted him..
- every knee will bow to His Name

## **PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11**

**Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,**

**and raised us up  
with him and  
seated us with him  
in the heavenly  
places in Christ  
Jesus,**

Ephesians 2:6 ESV

- In Christ...we have an exalted position.(Eph 2:6)
- Can live sacrificially and obediently from an exalted position



# Am I living my life for Christ?

- Live consistently for Christ.
- For God to see, not men... integrity of faith

- Live selflessly and consider others above self.
- Live following the example of Christ

- Value their opinions and give praise to encourage, not tear down
- Be sacrificial, humble and obedient, trusting God to keep His Word....exalted in Christ

# Living for Christ include

- Living consistently before God.
- Living selflessly before men, following the example of Christ.

# C T STUDD: Only one life

- **Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.**
- Give me Father, a purpose deep,  
In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;  
Faithful and true what e'er the strife,  
Pleasing Thee in my daily life;

**Only one life, 'twill soon be past,  
Only what's done for Christ will last.**  
Oh let my love with fervor burn,  
And from the world now let me turn;  
Living for Thee, and Thee alone,  
Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne





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