

Don't Take a Vacation From Edification
Romans 15:2
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Romans 15:2 *"Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification."*

Edification: 'oikos' = house 'domeo' = to build

1 Corinthians 3:9 *"For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building."*

Q. What should edification look like?

A. It's not about you; it's about the saints.

Ephesians 4:29 *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

Mark 10:45 *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

1 Thessalonians 5:11 *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

B. It's not what you profess; it's what you pursue.

Colossians 3:23-24 *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

James 2:17-18 *In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."*

Matthew 7:16-17 *By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.*

Romans 14:19 *Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.*

C. It's not about how much you know; it's about how much you care.

1 Corinthians 8:1-3 Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know. But the man who loves is known by God."

1 Corinthians 13:1-4 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

John 13:35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

D. It's not about your gifts; it's about your goals.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:31 But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way.

1 Corinthians 14:26 What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.

E. It's not about your wisdom; it's about His Word.

Acts 20:32 Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Ephesians 4:12-13 To prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Psalm 20:4-5 May He give you what you desire and make all your plans succeed. Then we will shout for joy over your victory and celebrate your triumph by praising our God. May the Lord answer all your requests.

How can we apply this lesson to our lives?

1. Do you have a critical heart or a caring heart?

Romans 12:9-10 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Are you spending daily time in the Word?

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you will grow up in your salvation.

3. What gifts can you use to serve others?

1 Peter 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

4. Who can you edify this week?

Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Acts 4:36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabus (which means Son of Encouragement)

Dare to be a Barnabus!