1Thess #76

Learn to lay yourself down for the Royal Family.

Let us open today in Romans chapter 15.

I remind you again, this is not a series designed to bring guilt or shame, it is educational and guidance for all Bels to learn from.

These types of messages can be convicting and as long as it is HS conviction, it will be a growing experience - not a trip down humiliation lane.

/The RFHC has foundational ideologies that are dependent upon the Nature of Christ. Therefore, the Bel needs to be beyond the beginning stages of growth to fully function successfully, in the honor code. Some of these principles are;

Forgiveness Selflessness

Impeccable manners Love

Empathy Compassion

Confidence Wisdom \

No one gets it right every day - all the time! But these are some core qualities that will appear in the life of a maturing Bel and with that growth, the RFHC will shine forth in their journey.

Keep in mind, anytime we see the word -*wisdom*, that means applied BD to the experiences of life.

/Rom 15:1 Now **we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses**of those without strength, and **not just please ourselves.**

The RFHC centers around service and attention to the body of Christ.\

There are times you will be the weak one and times you will be the strong one and it takes humility to recognize this and live in this principle.

/Strength comes in several forms, physical, mental, spiritual. Any given day one of these could become weakened in your life. The RFHC depends upon the recognition of this principle. It is the call to be willing to place others above self, also to understand that we do not have all details – we are not omniscience. \

We give other Bels the benefit of the doubt and we apply mercy and grace.

[Rom 15:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/15/2/s_1061002) Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to *his* edification.

[Rom 15:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/15/3/s_1061003) For even Christ did not please Himself, but as it is written: “THE TAUNTS OF THOSE WHO TAUNT YOU HAVE FALLEN ON ME.”

Rom 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

/[Rom 15:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/15/5/s_1061005) Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to **be of the same mind with one another, according to Christ Jesus**,

The mind we are to have fellowship with and then, fellowship from, comes from Christ (BD). Unity is strength and within the RFHC unity is important. \

Notice I said – fellowship with and fellowship from.

[Rom 15:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/15/6/s_1061006) so that with one purpose *and* one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The call for unity in the body is imperative – yet, do not be fooled into thinking you can compromise truth for the sake of unity.

/One of the key reasons weak Bels or baby Bels struggle with the RFHC, is they lack real discernment. They consider inclusive attitudes means unity. Unity in Christianity is only accomplished by submission to the mind of Christ. Unity is not compromise, because truth (BD) can never be compromised. Inclusion speaks to allowing lies and counterfeits to blend with truth and facts. \

This is why it is important to understand a strong stance in who God made you to be.

Having a strong stance in BD, means you will not accept lies and counterfeits. It does not mean you seek combative actions with everyone who disagrees with you.

Guess what – it is healthy to have robust disagreements and debates.

Christians need to learn the art of agreeing to disagree.

REPEAT

Not only is unity often misunderstood in Christianity, so too is generosity and laying your life down for the RF.

/Rom 15:26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been **pleased to make a contribution for the poor** among the saints in Jerusalem. 27 For they were pleased *to do so,* and they are indebted to them. For if **the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things**, they are indebted **to do them a service also in material things**.

It is easy to say – I’ll pray for you brother. The real challenge is what you do with your time, talent and treasure. \

Many Bels enjoy Bible study and speaking on Christian platforms or interacting with other Bels. Yet when the time comes to lay their time, talent and treasure on the line - they pull back.

Or they give lip service to how much they love someone, or how they will pray for a person or a ministry.

/Heb 4:12 For **the word of God is living and active**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even **penetrating**as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

ACCURATE Bible study is the guidance and calling for the CA Bel. It is the only avenue of growth.\

BD cuts through the lies and counterfeits.

You will never achieve success with the RFHC outside of digesting the word of GOD habitually.

/Heb 4:13 And there is **no creature hidden from His sight,** but **all things are open and laid bare** to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

The RFHC calls the Bel into a selfless attitude. GOD is the one who sees this because the doctrine of privacy is a foundation in the honor code.\

Those who uphold the RFHC won’t play spiritual police in your life, they shouldn’t!

Because of that, many Christians never step up with their time, talent and treasure to apply inside the plan of God.

/Jer 17:10 “**I, the LORD, search** (*ḥāqar*)the heart, **I test**(*bāḥan*)**the mind**, to give to each person according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.

This speaks to deep examination, to fully peel back the layers of the soul, the mind and every thought, desire or decision. \

HAW-KAR, meaning a deep dive or search which is exhaustive.

BAWC-HAN, examine - to fully test and seek out all details, no stone left unturned. To press or prod, which will prove the truth and facts in the end.

Many Bels look like they are busy or active in the Christian way of life through lip service or occasional deeds and actions. Yet it is either Christian activism which is works of the flesh.

Or it is nothing more than Christian lip service. God is not fooled by Christians who play games jumping inside and outside the plan of God when it is convenient for them.

/Pro 21:2 Every person’s way is right in his own eyes, But **the LORD examines the hearts**.

Eph 6:6 not by way of eye-service, **as people-pleasers**, but as slaves of Christ, **doing the will of God from the heart**. \

The reality is we all have a certain amount of time every week – a certain amount of treasure and talent that GOD allows us to have.

That time, talent and treasure in the temporal of the here and now, speaks to your life – your life each week is driven by time…it is driven by treasure such as monetary and items of value we gather.

Your life each week is driven by talents that you have and use for recreation and income. REPEAT

/Jhn 15:12 “This is **My commandment, that you love one another**, just as I have loved you. 13 “Greater love has no one than this, **that a person will lay down his life for his friends.**

The calling is that we reach maturity and reflect the person of Jesus Christ, in how we lay down our own time, talent and treasure to lift up those in the RF who are in need.\

God is not calling you to sacrifice the whole of your human body and die in place of someone else.

Jesus Christ laid HIS life down for the whole world – HE is the impeccable one, we are called to have the same attitude.

GOD is pointing to your lifestyle in this temporal walk.

What is your attitude and viewpoint concerning HIS word and HIS people?

A generous spirit is a sign you are not a Bel who struggles with pettiness or greed.

This means you do not hold a white-knuckled grip on your time, talent and treasure.

/Eph 4:32 **Be kind to one another**, compassionate, forgiving each other, **just as God in Christ also has forgiven you**.

The Bel who is growing will not be selfish but generous with mercy, compassion as well as materialism. The RFHC demands a healing, open heart – a view toward reconciliation not division. \

We will close today in Colossians chapter three.

Remember the Bible clearly tells us, how we treat the least of the human race is how you treat TLJC!

Mat 25:40 “And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did *it* for one of the least of these brothers *or sisters* of Mine, you did *it* for Me.’

/Mat 10:40 **The one who receives you receives Me,** and the one who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

The RFHC recognizes ALL Bels are part of the body and bride of Christ.\

In Colossians chapter 3 - The Apostle Paul is teaching the walk we are called into, it is a walk in the NEW NATURE. In verses 9 – 10, he teaches us to put on the new nature – take off the old one.

/Col 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart** of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, *and* patience;

The Bel first must be filled by God the HS and that is step one of putting on this thought process – step two is the advancement (applied BD).\

This is speaking to a process of putting on the new nature yet now you are thinking, applying BD.

/Col 3:12 - ***PUT ON***, is an aorist tense, imperative mood, speaking to a process of thinking and application.

Aorist tense speaks to something you already have, it covers present and past tense – often used for pointing to completion. Imperative mood is a serious statement – command form. \

The Bel who simply uses rebound for a yo-yo game, never advances inside the plan of God. This is pointing to application of the RFHC, putting your Ambassadorship on display.

The command is you are now in the new nature or you have the new nature available, now what about - compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience? Speaking to your walk.

/[Col 3:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/3/13/s_1110013) **bearing with one another, and forgiving each other**, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so *must* you *do* also.

The RFHC forces the BEL to never lose sight of the grace of God and the work of Christ. Leading to a relaxed MA and capacity for healthy relationships.\

[Col 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/3/14/s_1110014) In addition to all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Impersonal, unconditional love, is the key to problem solving. Especially, to retain unity in the body of Christ.

These verses are teaching the Bel to progress forward in that new nature.

The Apostle Paul is teaching and truly emphasizing, growth – taking that which is given at salvation and walking in it!

/[Col 3:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/3/15/s_1110015) **Let the peace of Christ**, to which you were indeed called in one body, **rule in your hearts**; and be thankful.

The Bel applying the RFHC has a grateful spirit and relaxed attitude. They are usually the problem solver not the trouble-maker! \

[Col 3:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/3/16/s_1110016) Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

The word of CHRIST (BD) is our guide and as we reach spiritual maturity we can teach and lift other Bels up.

The word admonishing speaks to warning in the form of correction.

It is the Greek verb – *noutheteō,* (NEWTH-TAYO) it points to using BD as means to help guide another Bel.

[Col 3:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/3/17/s_1110017) Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

That’s the attitude of a mature Bel living in the spiritual system of the RFHC.

/The RFHC demands attention to detail and protocol. Because of this, Bels should seek to keep growing so that they become Bels who apply the honor code and fulfill the ambassadorship they were called into. When growth is real, spiritual discernment escalates and that Bel will be able to lift others up as well as serve as a guide. They will also know how and when to warn others and even apply the doctrine of separation in extreme circumstances.\

One of the easiest signals you can pick out concerning another Bel who may be sending mixed signals as to their spiritual walk – is, what do they truly believe and what do they truly live in?

/Mat 12:50 “**For whoever does the will of My Father** who is in heaven, he is My brother, and sister, and mother.”

The will of God the FATHER is to believe upon His precious Son, then grow in HIS grace and knowledge.\

When you gain spiritual discernment these types of situations become easier and easier to handle.

You have the patience to wait and pay attention to details and the still small voice of God gets much more clear at maturity.