

Topic	The Gospel Mindset and The Basis of Community
Reference	1 Corinthians 1:17-2:16
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If we look out into our own community today, there are huge problems. What started as a miracle on May 9th last year looks like a wagon with its wheels about to come apart. Because people simply don't get on, they don't get along. The problem with anything, humans cannot get along. Same thing with churches, they are no better because there are about 38,000 denominations and rising. They are separate based on different and almost everything. We have got divisions inside the churches as well. We gossip, we have people who are self-serving, we fear confrontation, we let other people form blocks. They have hypercritical spirit, there are people who go around criticizing everybody else and then they form different blocks. There is a lack of church discipline. So we have problems there. These are the same problems which Paul encountered in the church and he actually said,

1 Corinthians 1:17 (ESV) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to **preach the gospel**, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its **power**.

Paul means that what stands in the way of community. In this particular two chapters Paul is putting forward the thesis that it is human wisdom that stands in the way of community. Why? If you look in chapter 1 it says,

1 Corinthians 1:11-13 (ESV) For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. 12 What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

They are polarizing around the various leaders. Because what happens is that, there are various leaders and their allegiance to the particular lady is tied to self-esteem and pride. My leader is better than your leader, my cell group is better than your group, my church is better than your church and because of those differences, which are actually based on achievement in human wisdom, it stands in the way of community and in any community that's the main problem. So what does Paul do when he goes back to the gospel? Going back to the

gospel is not a cry to go back to the basics, so you are distracted and you go back to missions, you don't have to fight each other. No, the gospel actually forges community. Today, we need to look at the Word of God, how Paul encourages us to have a gospel mindset because the gospel mindset undercuts our reliance on human wisdom, it places Christ in the center of our needs and it refocuses our mindset from self to service. There is a progression of thought. So I am going to draw this out in the passage today.

1. The Gospel undercuts our reliance on human wisdom.

That's the problem that is stumbling all of society.

1 Corinthians 1:18-19 (ESV) For the **word of the cross is folly** to those who are perishing, but to us who are **being saved it is the power of God.**

So, there is a complete difference. To a Christian at that time, if you talk about the cross you get excited, it saved your life. When you talk about a cross to your non-Christian friend, they think you are stupid. There is a complete difference of value system. So Paul says,

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 (ESV) For consider your calling, brothers: **not many of you were wise** according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. **27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;**

Paul doesn't mean that Christians are stupid. Richard Dawkins, an atheist, certainly thinks that Christians are stupid. He says,

"If you don't understand how something works, never mind: just give up and say God did it. You don't know how the nerve impulse works? Good! You don't understand how memories are laid down in the brain? Excellent! Is photosynthesis a bafflingly complex process? Wonderful! Please don't go to work on the problem, just give up, and appeal to God.

So according to him, God is a god of the gaps. Whatever you don't understand, you can say "God only knows". Blame God for everything. So in that way he says Christians are stupid. In fact, there was a big study that combined all the other studies together and published in 2013. They looked at relationship between intelligence and religiosity. They found on this particular study was that intelligent people tend to be less religious. In fact, some of the reasons given are:

1. Intelligent people are less likely to conform

2. There is an analytic approach which undermines religious beliefs. So therefore Christians aren't very analytical.
3. Intelligent people are self-sufficient do not need religion

Satoshi Kanazawa is an evolutionary psychologist at London School Of Economics. He says,

"Religion is an evolved domain ...an instinct. If you are clever enough, you can overcome the instinct"

There was a review of scientist versus general public.

Issue	Scientists	General Public
Atheists or Agnostic	64%	6%
No doubt God exists	9%	60%
Attend religious services once a month	18%	46%

It looks like intelligence and religion don't mix. A survey of university kids in the US found out that from 1970 to 2010 the kids are getting smarter. Because they are getting smarter they have got no religious preference. This is going higher and higher and higher. Religious attendance of services from 85% in 1970 goes right down to about 60 something percent in 2010.

Are our kids getting smarter? That's why they don't subscribe to any religion. We know that intelligence or wisdom has got different domains. If you just go about IQ, it doesn't capture it all. We know that intelligence has got multiple domains and in EQ it measures motivation, empathy, self-awareness, social skills and they actually predict more for success. So there are different domains and when Paul talks about wisdom and intelligence, it is actually with sarcasm.

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 (ESV) For consider your calling, brothers: **not many of you were wise** according to **worldly standards**, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

1 Corinthians 1:25 (ESV) For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men

He is using wisdom in a sarcastic manner because if you look in chapter 2 verses 6 and 7

1 Corinthians 2:6-7 (ESV) Yet among the mature we **do impart wisdom**, although it is not **a wisdom of this age** or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a **secret and hidden wisdom** of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory

He is saying you are stupid on one hand and on the other part you say, you are clever. It is a different kind of cleverness. It is a different domain. We impart a secret hidden wisdom of God, which God has decreed before our ages, which actually look stupid in the eyes of normal human beings. It is a derived wisdom, not an innate wisdom. Our wisdom is derived, it is given to us. Whereas, what the world talks about is basically innate wisdom. It is like when you were young and your child is very naughty and says Papa, I would like to take this screwdriver and stick it into the wall plug. Even if you tell him 15 times, he will not listen. He puts that screwdriver into the plug and then his hairs go up and you say to him, 'very clever'. The child is not clever, it is just a sarcastic way of saying something. It is exactly what Paul is trying to do. He is trying to put down human wisdom as if they are very clever, but they are not. The basic issue, the difference is the basic premise. It is completely different. Human wisdom is based on the ability to make good judgments based on what you have learned from your experiences or the knowledge and understanding that gives you this ability. Biblical wisdom is

Proverbs 9:10-11 (ESV) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Because if you live in a world created by God, if you don't even acknowledge that he lives and this is a world where he dictates the rules then you must not be very clever. The starting point has got to be right. If you look at God's wisdom and man's wisdom. In God's wisdom he tells Adam and Eve,

Genesis 2:16-17 (ESV) And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**"

Man's wisdom

Genesis 3:6 (ESV) So when the woman **saw that the tree was good for food**, and that it was a **delight to the eyes**, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

She decided to believe herself rather than God. That's human wisdom. Human wisdom is a suppression of truth.

Romans 1:18-19 (ESV) For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness **suppress the truth**. 19 For what can be known about God is **plain to them**, because God has shown it to them

It is a deliberate suppression of the truth. Steven Hawking even though he discovered that there is a big bang, there is a beginning to everything, he refused to except that there is a God and he actually came up with this statement in his last published book in 2010. He says,

"because there is a law such as gravity, the Universe can and will create itself from nothing." "Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we exist. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going."

The underlined sentence is a little bit strange. A law is a description of a process. If X creates Y, it presupposes that X exists in order to create Y. So, this is actually a little bit silly. They have to suppress this idea that there is a God. In fact, there is a group in United States led by Robert Funk in 1985, who went and basically relooked at all the gospels that talk about Jesus and they wanted to take out all the stuff that really is not authentic and the group decided that whatever is authentic must be the non-miracle. So, they took out all the miracles. They concluded that only the Lord's Prayer is authentic, the rest is not. Because their basic premise is that Jesus is not God.

The atheist believes that there is no God, there is only evolution. If there is no God and there is only evolution, then there is no eternity, we are not going to make a difference. There is no lasting meaning, everything is temporary. Most of us will be very sad about these statements. The only way you could be happy is you ignore this fact and then you will be logically inconsistent, but you will be happy. Here are some of the comments from atheists,

*I think that when I die I'll cease to exist, and in some ways I'm happy about that. Life is hard work. Life is good, worthy work that I'm proud of and that makes me feel good, for the most part, but even though I'll probably be sad to die **(and I'd hate to think I was about to die any time soon)**, I'm still glad, in principle, that some day life will cease, and my burdens will dissolve with my joys. I don't want to live forever.*

How do I feel about it? Meh. I accepted my mortality (and that of everyone else I know) a long time ago, I dealt with it, and now I rarely give it much thought unless circumstances call it to my attention. I have better things to do with my life than obsessing over a time when it's going to be over

The only way an atheist is going to be able to live and be happy is to suppress this idea that there is a God, even though it is logically inconsistent. Human wisdom is temporary. Paul says,

1 Corinthians 2:6-9 (ESV) Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a **wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away**. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" –

Knowledge grows at the rate of 2000 pages per minute. If you actually were reading 24 hours a day to gain all this knowledge and you read from when you were 20 years old to 70 years old, you would be 1.5 million years behind time in terms of knowledge. There is so much of it, but much of it is temporary. Look at my field, prostate cancer. This is a Harvard Medical School publication and they looked at 51% lowering of prostate cancer rates in people who took vitamin E also selenium. So everybody takes vitamin E and within five years another article comes out saying

"dietary supplementation with vitamin E significantly increased the risk of prostate cancer among healthy men by 17% compared to those who had received placebo."

The wisdom is so clever that within five or six years, the total opposite occurs. Who do you believe? Now Paul says,

1 Corinthians 1:18-21 (ESV) For the **word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing**, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, "I will **destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discerning of the discerning I will thwart.**"

How did God do this? He says,

1 Corinthians 1:20-25 (ESV) Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

He is saying that it is not through the Ph.Ds., it is not through the debaters, it is not through the rankings that you come to salvation. Those are the people, the intellectuals who think what we do is actually stupid. He is saying to them; most human beings have a hang up. For example, the Jews. They think they can't believe in God because a God on a cross is actually a stumbling block. The word used is scandalous *"that which causes offense or revulsion and results in opposition, disapproval, or hostility, fault, stain"*.

The Greeks on the other hand believe Jesus Christ on the cross is actually very stupid. That's why they can't believe him. If you look at the Jews, they think it is a scandal because they believe in a triumphant messiah who will return one day into Jerusalem and he is going to go through the golden gate which has been closed for 12 centuries. Messiah is going to rule the world forever. How can you have a God hanging on a tree, because the rabbis say,

"But this your so-called Christ is without honor and glory and glory so that he is even fallen into the uttermost curse that is in the Law of God for he was crucified"

The Jews can't accept this Messiah. They say that Jesus hung on the cross, and a hanging man is cursed by God. But this is precisely why Jesus was hung on the cross, to take our curse. Jews can't get over that.

For Greeks, gods are distant and powerful by logic, because they control the sun, they control the waves, they control the powers of the world. There is a Sun god, moon god, and etc. So therefore how can a god be weak. Even there are heroes who die like Achilles, killed so many people before the arrow hit his Achilles heel before he died. Celsus a Greek philosopher says,

God is good and beautiful and happy, and if that which is most beautiful and best, if then he descends to man it involves change for him and a change from

good to bad from beautiful to ugly, from happiness to unhappiness from what is best to what is worst, and God would never accept such a change

For gentiles it cannot happen, because God is such a wonderful and powerful being. How could he come right down. A lot of people think that Christians worship a donkey, because the gentiles and Greeks look down on Christian. They say, you are so stupid.

What about our modern society?

I came across this article in CNN. How Stan Lee lives in you? Stan Lee died recently and he has affected the way we think. That's because Stan Lee did more than create characters. He created hope and hope cannot be contained. You can find in Marvel action comic, the X-Men teaches us about racial discrimination. The Iron Man is talking about capitalism and weapons making. We look at Captain America, he wrestles with ideas of patriotism. What to do when your country is on the wrong side? These are struggles. So, the comic characters tell us what to believe. So, Stan Lee has heroes and they help to inspire us, tell us to be willing to be our higher selves. These characters have life and so Stan Lee will live on because his writings affect how we think.

When you sing the right song that people want to hear then people will buy it, lock, stock and barrel. So human wisdom makes us very vulnerable. For the Jews, Jesus Christ is a stumbling block. For the Greeks, He is folly. For us Chinese, God must not only be powerful, he must be prosperous. It is the philosophy that occupies our mind that our minds and our attitudes are based on. So, we struggle. We struggle with the need for God. Somehow, we need a God, we need heroes in our life, we need hope and yet on the other hand we can't let go control. We have to have control that is our human dilemma. So therefore, the only way to resolve this conflict is to look for idols. We create God. The Pope once said, *God made us in his image, and we have returned the favour to Him.*

We want to be in control. Its human wisdom, only we are smart enough and so unless God takes that away we will never accept Christ, we will never depend on God because we are too smart. Human wisdom stands in the way of God's wisdom.

Isaiah 29:14 therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

So if you look,

1 Corinthians 1:27 But God chose what is foolish in the world **to shame the wise**; God chose **what is weak in the world to shame the strong**; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 **so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.**

As long as we have something to boast about, we will never be a community. The gospel destroys our flesh. As long as we are in the flesh, we are always thinking we are smarter than the other guy and as long as we think we are smarter than the other guy we will always fight. So, the gospel removes that difference.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (ESV) And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, **"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."**

Is God so jealous or He feels threatened by us that he is so boastful and so egocentric, he must have all the glory. No, these are opposing concepts. It is like looking at a little girl who is wearing Supergirl costume. She comes to you and say I am Supergirl, we are not going to be threatened by her. Only when you have to cut away the dependence on human wisdom, then you will lean on God's wisdom. All our lives, God is coming and removing our reliance on human wisdom because human wisdom doesn't work. He wants us to come to a stage in life that whatever we are proud of, whatever we are boasting on, whatever we are going to boast to each other is boasting in the Lord.

2. The Gospel places Christ in the Center of all our Needs

Our self-esteem, hope and joy is on the one same person and that's how the gospel creates community. The gospel places Christ in the center of our needs.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (ESV) And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us **wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption**, 31 so that, as it is written, **"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."**

This is the only way we create community. Maslow's hierarchy of human needs. In every human being made in the image of God, there are priorities. You want to make sure you able to take food and sleep. You look after safety. After that you look for love and belonging, after that self-esteem and after that meaning in

life. Now if you are kind of a person, who come to church only because you are saved and you want to eat food then you become no more than the monkey, because you are working at that kind of level, for which God never designed you to be. At the other higher level, we generate this for ourselves. Self-actualization, esteem and belonging in love. The trouble is that we generate this ourselves and what Paul is saying is that, we need to have Christ. For you Christ must be in the center of all your needs.

Harold Abrams was in the Chariots of Fire about the story of Olympics in 1924. He says,

And now in one hour's time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds to justify my existence. But will I?

He is talking about, he is going to run down that corridor in 10 lonely seconds and if he makes it, he becomes a world champion. If he doesn't make it, all that would have been wasted. Righteousness can be construed as a validating performance that validates and gives meaning to your life. Sydney Pollock is a famous film director and even though when he was suffering a terminal disease in 2004, he keep on making movies. He says, *every time I finish a movie...I feel I have earned my stay for another year or so*

When I was in Australia last week, I came across an article in the Sydney Morning Herald about a young doctor, Yumiko Kadota, who is a migrant to Sydney. She was applying to be a surgeon. During her training, which included being rostered on 24 days in a row and over 100 hours of overtime in a month. She finally woke up one day and she thought, *you are killing yourself for a job that would replace you within a week if you dropped dead. Take care of yourself.* She stopped trying to be a surgeon and she became a normal doctor. Now somehow your validating performance if it is not based on something that last forever and the fact is you are killing yourself for a job that will replace you within a week, why bother.

Our society is based on differences. If you change from a race based society to a degree based society, there will still be differences because we are always trying to create differences between each and that will always divide our country. The gospel mindset replaces all the differences

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 (ESV) And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and

redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, **boast in the Lord.**"

Paul's example,

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (ESV) And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God **with lofty speech or wisdom.** 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except **Jesus Christ and him crucified.** 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Paul didn't come with eloquence of speech, but he came with the gospel message that has not changed till today. In our generation, the music may change, the people may change but the gospel is that power. The power of the Holy Spirit is the power that transforms people. So the nature of gospel wisdom comes through the spirit. You see, the spirit searches all things in the depths of God

1 Corinthians 2:10-13 (ESV) these things God has **revealed to us through the Spirit.** For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, **interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.**

Nature of the gospel wisdom is that it comes from God. We actually have a pair of glasses. We use biblical ideology and we filter popular culture and ideology and opinion through this. The other way we can do is that we wear the popular culture, ideology and opinion glasses and then we filter biblical ideology to that. When we decide to live according to God's wisdom, we do this. We decide to live according to men's wisdom we do according to their wisdom.

Spurgeon says, *If you profess to be a Christian, yet find full satisfaction in worldly pleasures and pursuits, your profession is false.*

What he is saying is Christ got to be center of what you find beautiful, where you find contentment, where you find peace. If that is the center of your life then you are a Christian.

3. The Gospel refocuses our mindset from self to service

1 Corinthians 2:14-16 (ESV) The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" **But we have the mind of Christ**

There is some controversy over this particular verse. Some people think that Paul is talking about carnal Christian and a spiritual Christian. Some people say that the natural person is a carnal Christian, but that's not very likely because the word of God says,

(1 Cor 1:18a) For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us

So therefore it must mean the natural person is a non-Christian. Some people think that the spiritual person is the one who is matured. Elders, deacons, they have the mind of Christ, the rest of us don't have that mind. That's not necessarily true because if you look at the passage

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 (ESV) Now we have received not the **spirit of the world**, but the **Spirit who is from God**, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those **who are spiritual**.

So the issue here is not between a godly Christian or less godly Christian but whether you actually have the spirit. It is actually spiritual truth or non-spiritual truth. So therefore, the issue here is that the spiritual person is a Christian. Christian is a one who has God's attitude. What is God's attitude?

Philippians 2:5-8 (ESV) Have this **mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus**, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 **but emptied himself**, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming **obedient to the point of death**, even death on a cross.

Having the mind of Christ means dying to self and serving others and if you think I can't do it alone, I can't sacrifice, I can't forgive, I can't serve and I certainly don't want to tithe, why because I don't have much money, I need all the affirmation and praise and glory, I don't want to look out for other people, I look after myself.

Serving diminishes me. That's true serving will diminish you, because you will have less time for yourself. The only way you can do it is if you have the presence of Christ. Then you will be able to serve, able to give, you are able to sacrifice, because you are drawing upon the riches of which God has given you. If you are poor and you are not able to serve, you are not able to give, is because you don't have anything. That's a serious problem. The enabling is that, if we have the wisdom of God, we have the righteousness of God, we have got the sanctification of God, we got redemption of God, then we can love other people despite differences.

If your glory and pride is in the wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption of God, so whatever somebody has doesn't affect you because your treasure is with God. We can love and treat well despite the differences, we can forgive rather than avoid. You could be generous to people and you can forgive. Forgiveness is a supernatural ability; normal people cannot forgive. It is only supernatural power given to you by Jesus Christ. So, if you can't forgive, Jesus can't forgive you, it is a fact because if you show no forgiveness that means you haven't actually received the forgiveness. You haven't been touched by the grace of God. If we have God's righteousness and wisdom and sanctification and redemption, we have true humility because we don't have to compete. We don't have to treat others based on what they were, but we treat each other on the basis of what we will become. Each of us is a son of God, adopted son of God and this is what we were. So, every time we look at each other we are hoping for the best.

When we have the comfort of love, comfort and fellowship, it inspires us to repent, able to move and grow. That is only able if we have the wisdom, the righteousness, sanctification and redemption and we focus on that in our lives and if we have the gospel mindset, we are going to focus on spirituality rather than gifts. So gifts instead of being based on human wisdom and become a point of difference and a point of contention becomes something that will make a difference.

Our spiritual gifts are given to us, so that we can give to others. Christians gifts are different, they are for others. So, we focus on spirituality rather than gifts. We focus on principle rather than results. We focus on truth rather than loyalty. We focus on kingdom rather than comfort. The gospel mindset changes everything and that's how it creates community.

We need to stop our reliance on human wisdom because that prevents true community and if the world sees Christians being able to do that then they say this is a supernatural body. We need to place Christ at the center of all our

needs and the more he fills us, the more we will feel that we are rich in every aspect then the more generous we will be, the more loving we will be, the more open we will be, the more confident we will be, the more likely we are to repent because we have assurance of his love. We need to have the mind of Christ and we are able to love and serve because we are rich. Whatever serving we go does not diminish, in fact it increases us. We reach our maximum potential when we are like Christ. Christ ultimate service was on the cross and if you are not serving, if you are not putting yourself out there, if you are not sacrificing you are not going to experience the maximum potential for which God has created you. All your gifts, all your wealth, all your power and all your ability is given to you for one purpose and that one purpose is to honor God and if you don't have that mind of Christ and you are always serving yourself then you haven't experienced what the gospel can really do for you.

So this is a challenge, let us go to the Lord in prayer and commit ourselves that we adopt a gospel mindset and let our church be a true community.