

Let Us Welcome One Another

Romans 15:5-7



ONE ANOTHER-ING

Putting Into Practice Jesus' New Way of Being Human Together

____ New Series at Mercy Hill Church ____

A blue circular award seal with a white border and a scalloped edge. Inside the seal, at the top, are three white stars. Below the stars, the word "OXFORD" is written in white capital letters. Below "OXFORD", the words "WORD OF THE YEAR" are written in large, bold, white capital letters. A yellow ribbon banner is draped across the middle of the seal. The background of the entire image consists of light blue diagonal rays emanating from behind the seal.

★★★
OXFORD
**WORD
OF THE YEAR**

GOES TO....

The graphic features a central blue circular seal with a white border and a serrated edge. Inside the seal, three white stars are positioned above the word 'OXFORD' in white capital letters. Below 'OXFORD', the words 'WORD OF THE YEAR' are written in large, bold, white capital letters. A yellow ribbon banner with a slight 3D effect is draped across the middle of the seal. On this banner, the text '2024: "BRAIN ROT"' is written in white capital letters. The entire seal and banner are set against a background of light blue diagonal rays emanating from the center.

★★★
OXFORD
WORD
OF THE YEAR

2024: "BRAIN ROT"

The graphic features a blue circular seal with a white border and a serrated edge. Inside the seal, three white stars are positioned above the word "OXFORD" in white capital letters. Below "OXFORD", the words "WORD OF THE YEAR" are written in large, bold, white capital letters. A yellow ribbon banner with a slight 3D effect is draped across the middle of the seal. The background consists of light blue diagonal rays emanating from behind the seal.

★★★
OXFORD
WORD
OF THE YEAR

2022: “GOBLIN MODE”

The graphic features a central blue circular seal with a white border and a scalloped outer edge. Inside the seal, three white stars are positioned above the word "OXFORD" in white capital letters. Below "OXFORD", the words "WORD OF THE YEAR" are written in large, bold, white capital letters. A yellow ribbon banner with a slight 3D effect is draped across the middle of the seal. The background consists of numerous light blue diagonal lines radiating from the center, creating a sunburst effect.

★★★
OXFORD
WORD
OF THE YEAR

2018: “TOXIC”



Three stars
OXFORD
**WORD
OF THE YEAR**

2013: “SELFIE”

☆☆☆
OXFORD
**WORD
OF THE YEAR**


2015:





Three stars
OXFORD
**WORD
OF THE YEAR**

2009: “UNFRIEND”

A woman with shoulder-length brown hair and bangs stands in profile, looking towards the right. She is wearing a light blue denim button-down shirt with the sleeves rolled up and dark pants. She is standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a line of trees under a warm, hazy sky, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**The tone of our world
wounds us in
a thousand ways.**

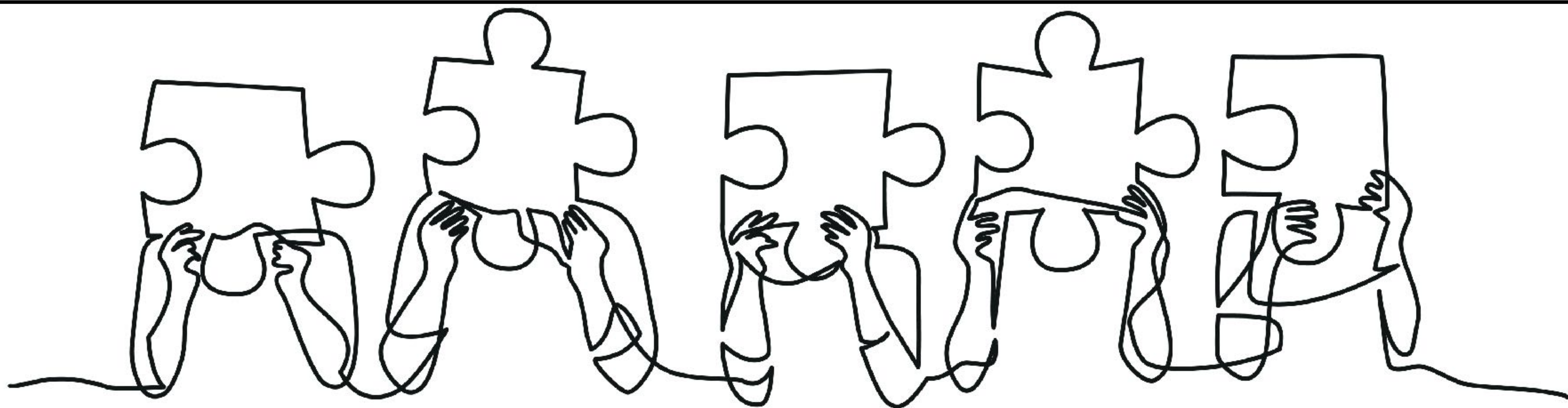
— Ann Voskamp —

“

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, ‘This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.’

— The Gospel of Luke 15:1-2 —

”



Let Us Welcome One Another

Romans 15:5-7

Romans, Chapter 15

5 May the God of endurance and of encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans, Chapter 15

5 May the God of endurance and of encouragement grant you **to live in such harmony with one another,** in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Let love be genuine. Abhor what
is evil; hold fast to what is good.
Love one another with a brotherly
love. Out do one another in
showing honor.**



The Apostle Paul
— Romans 12:9-10 —

**Owe no one anything, except
to love one another, for the one
who loves has fulfilled the law.**



The Apostle Paul
— Romans 13:8 —

**Let each of us please his
neighbor for his good, to build
him up. For even Christ did not
please himself....**




The Apostle Paul
— Romans 13:2 —

**JESUS' NEW WAY OF BEING HUMAN
LEADS US AWAY FROM A SELF-CENTERED
PREOCCUPATION WITH OURSELVES TO
A PREOCCUPATION WITH LOVING OTHERS**

Romans, Chapter 15

5 May the God of endurance and of encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another,
in accord with Christ Jesus,



“to exercise the mind, to think of, to set the affection on”

“...the same attitude of mind toward
each other that Christ Jesus had...”

— The New International Version —

**What would it mean
to have the same
attitude of mind
with each other
that Jesus had
for others?**



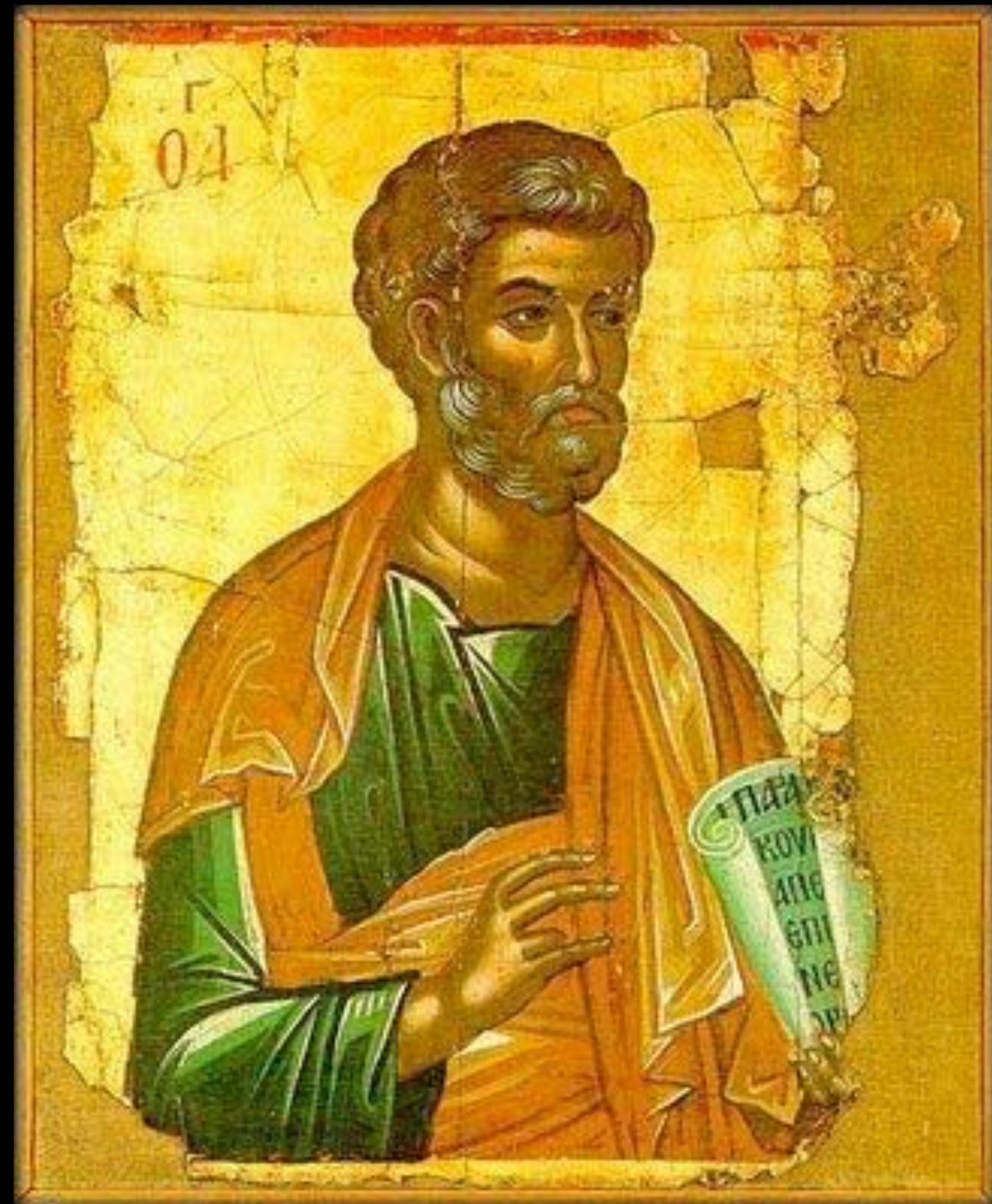
**For as many of you as were
baptized into Christ have put on
Christ. For there is neither Jew
nor Greek, there is neither slave
nor free, there is no male or
female, for you are all one in
Christ Jesus.**



**The Apostle Paul
— Galatians 3:27-28 —**

Romans, Chapter 15

5 May the God of endurance and of encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that **together** you may with one voice **glorify** the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.



**But you are a chosen race, a
royal priesthood, a holy nation,
a people for his own posses-
sion, that you may proclaim the
excellencies of him who called
you out of darkness into his
marvelous light.**

The Apostle Peter
— 1 Peter 2:9 —

Romans, Chapter 15

7 Therefore, **welcome one another....**

proslambano | προσλαμβάνω

- to take to oneself
- to take as a companion or associate
- to receive kindly or hospitably
- to admit into one's society and friendship

Romans, Chapter 15

7 Therefore, **welcome one another** **as** Christ has **welcomed you**, for the glory of God.

“

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, ‘This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.’

— The Gospel of Luke 15:1-2 —

”



Jesus' Family is a Grace-Formed Family

Romans, Chapter 15

7 Therefore, **welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you** for the glory of God.



Greek: for the honor / dignity / worship

Hebrew: the weightiness / significance of something



**We Welcome One Another
Because Jesus Christ Has
Graciously Welcomed Us**



1

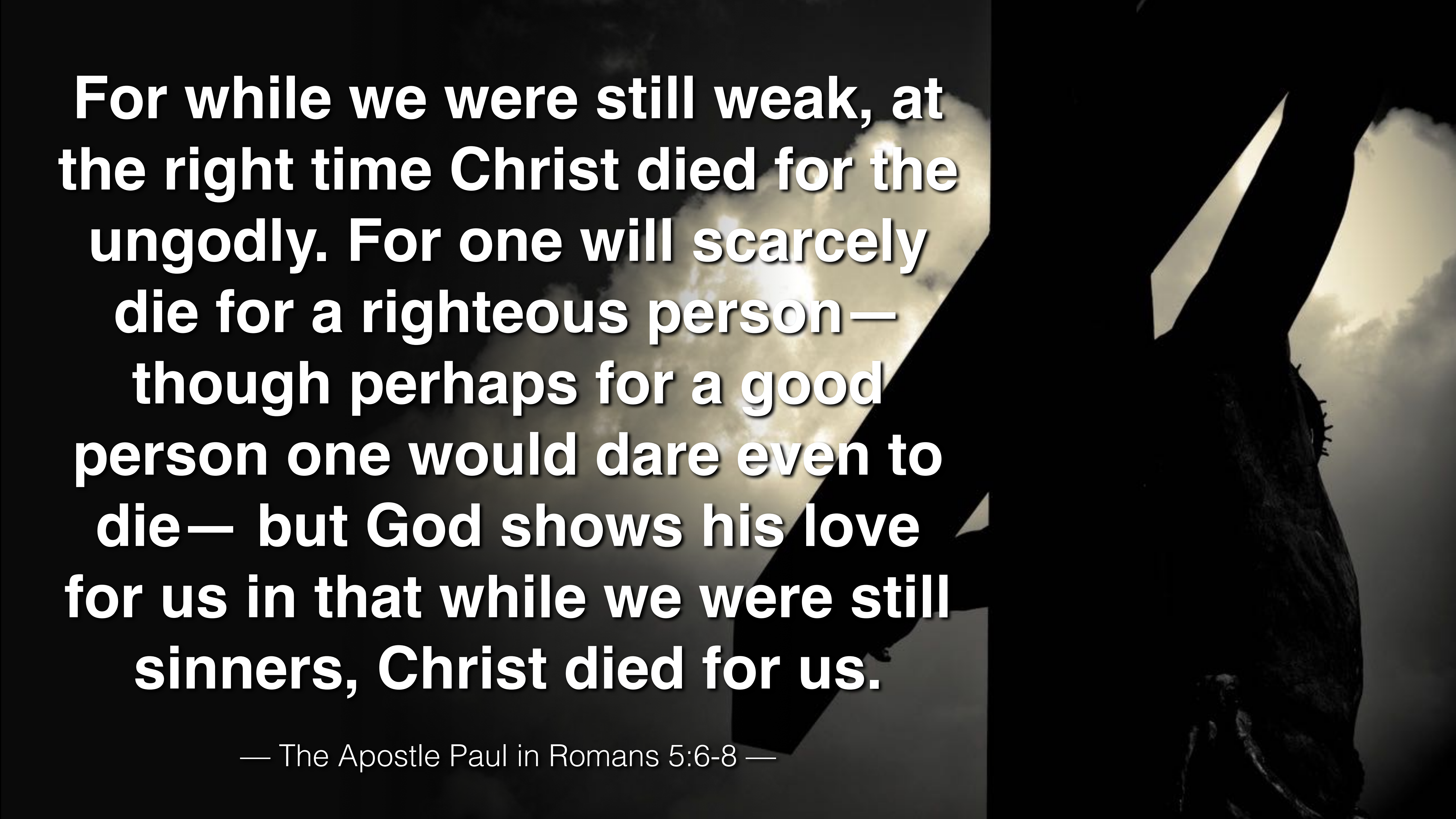
Let's Remember How Jesus Welcomed Us



**Come to Me, all who
are weary and heavy
burdened, and I will
give you rest.**

— Jesus of Nazareth —
The Gospel of Matthew 11:29





For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person— though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

— The Apostle Paul in Romans 5:6-8 —



**Just as I am
without one plea
but that Thy blood
was shed for me
and that Thou midst
me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come**

— “Just As I Am” by Charlotte Elliot (1835) —

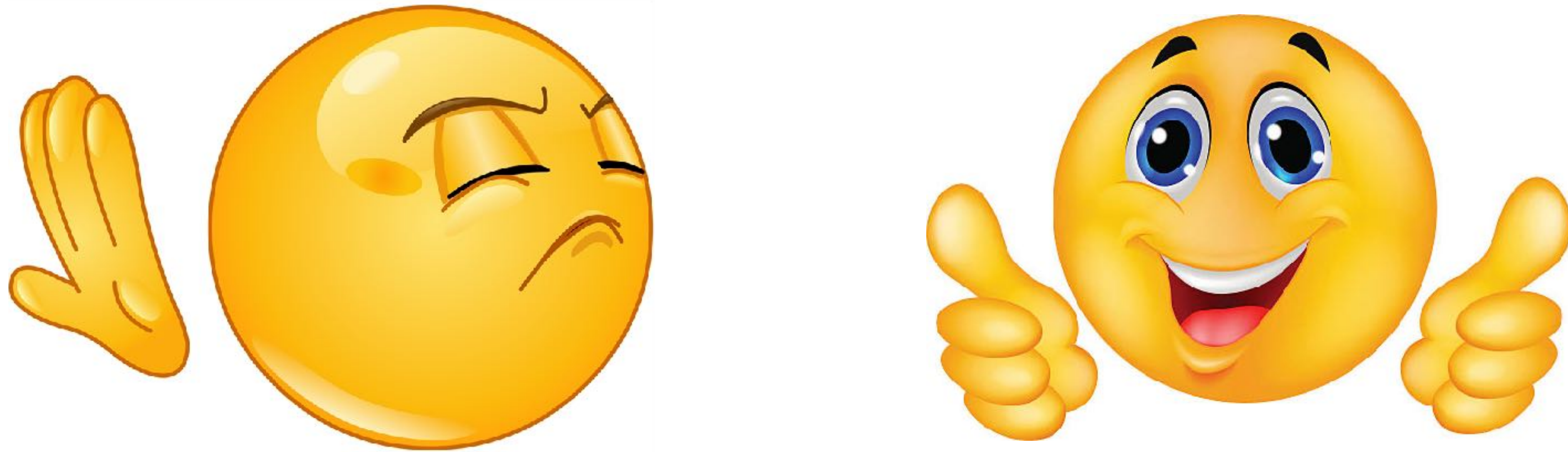
2

LET'S ASK
OURSELVES
SOME HARD
QUESTIONS

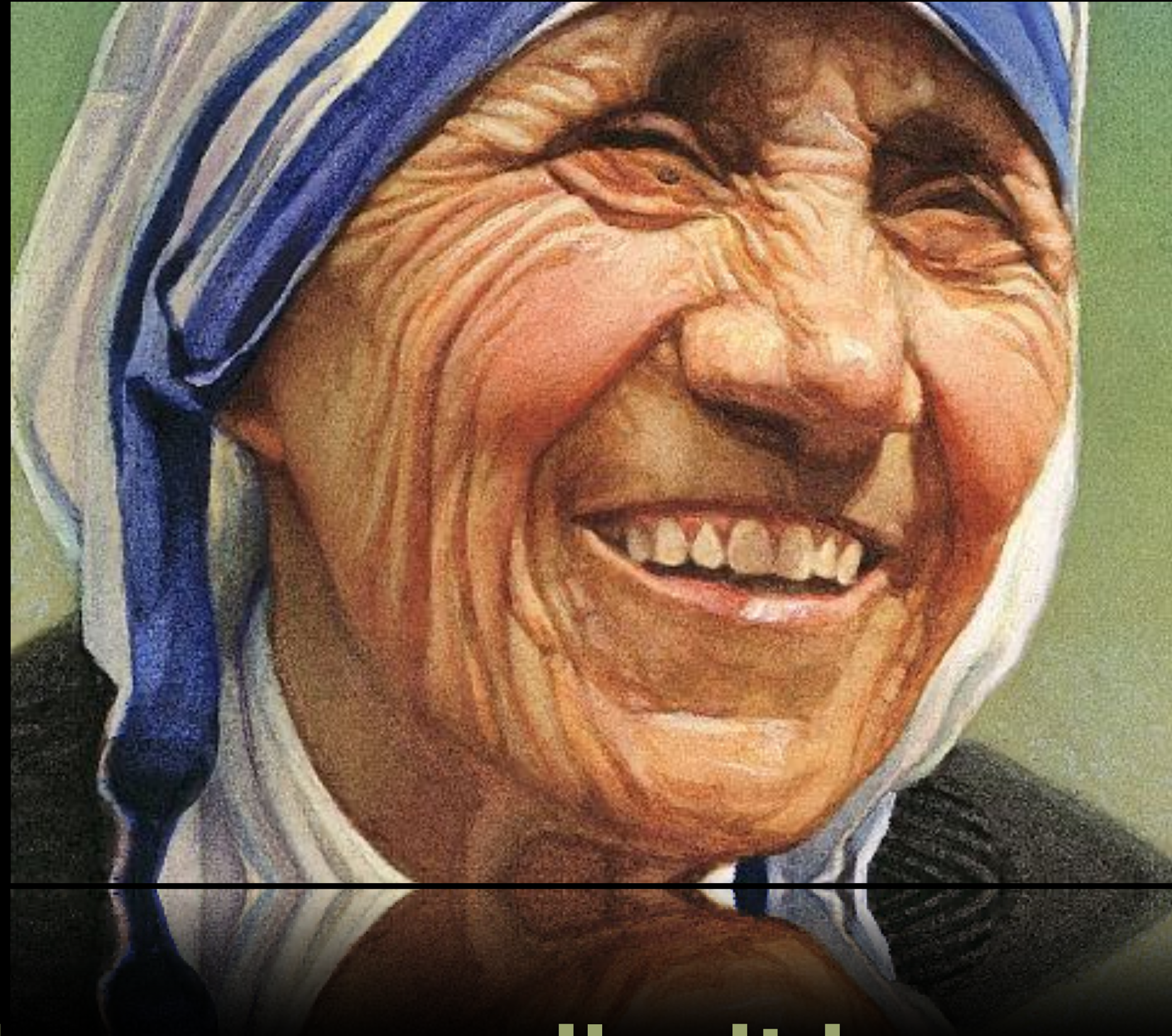


**AM I A
WELCOMING
PERSON?**





**Your heart is reflected in your face.
A “yes” face reflects a “yes” heart.
A “no” face reflects a “no” heart.**



**Every time you smile, it is an act of love,
a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.**

— Mother Teresa —



ARE WE A WELCOMING CHURCH?



**If God wanted to
send someone to
a church in BCS
where they would
be sure to be
welcomed, would
he want to send
them to MHC?**



3

**Let's Aim For
True Gospel
Community, Not
Just Another
Club**

“

We often surround ourselves with the people we most want to live with, thus forming a club or clique, not a community. Anyone can form a club; it takes grace, shared vision, and hard work to form a community.

— Philip Yancey —

”

LET'S GET
STARTED

(TODAY!)



a big confession

&

a small request

“Greet one another....”

— Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Peter 5:14 —



Can you imagine....

