### Personal Discipleship Lesson-2: What Does a Normal, Healthy Believer Look Like? Romans 15

First, Mature, normal, healthy believers display compassion for believers who differ with their convictions (Romans 15:1-3).

Second, Mature, normal, healthy believers display personal hope from God through the Scriptures (Romans 15:4).

Third, Mature, normal, healthy believers **display a united direction** in Christ with other believers (Romans 15:5).

Fourth, Mature, normal, healthy believers display a passion for Christ not self (Romans 15:6).

Fifth, Mature, normal, healthy believers display a connection to God as their source of hope through the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

Sixth, Healthy believers are **filled with the Holy Spirit** who produces the fruit of
goodness that fills their lives
(Romans 15:14a).

Seventh, Healthy believers are **experiencing personally** the truths of God, which is experiential knowledge (Romans 15:14b).

Eighth, Healthy believers understand & use God's Word to admonish each other (Romans 15:14c).

### Healthy believer feed on the doctrines of God's Word, and display spiritual strength & growth. Romans 15:1-4

Romans 15:1-4 (NKJV) We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. 3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." 4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

First, Mature, normal, healthy believers **display compassion** for believers who differ with their convictions (v.1-3).

They are vitally concerned about others more than themselves.

Jesus & Others & You, what a wonderful way to spell **JOY**.

# Second, Mature, normal, healthy believers **display personal hope** from God through the Scriptures (v. 4).

Lam. 3:21-24 (NKJV) This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope. 22 Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 24 "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!"

Third, Mature, normal, healthy believers display a united direction in Christ with other believers (v. 5).

Romans 15:5-6 (NKJV) Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be likeminded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,

# Fourth, Mature, normal, healthy believers display a passion for Christ not self (v.6).

Romans 15:6 (NKJV) that you may with **one mind and one mouth** glorify the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Seven times in the book of Acts the early church is described by the same word. That word is most often translated "with one accord".

The Greek word that is used in Acts is an adverb (*homothumadon*) that means "together, unanimously, with (in) one mind, purpose, accord".

## As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Worship: Acts 1:14

As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Togetherness: Acts 2:1

## As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Fellowship: Acts 2:46

As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Prayer: Acts 4:24

## As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Unitedness: Acts 5:12

As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Responsiveness: Acts 8:6

As Christ's Body we Share a Life of Investment: Acts 15:25

Fifth, Healthy Believers **Display a Connection to God** as their source of hope through the Holy Spirit v.13.

Romans 15:13 (NKJV) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit

#### 1 Sam. 30:1-6

# Sixth, Healthy believers are **filled with the Holy Spirit**: Who produces the fruit of goodness that fills their lives. v.14a

Romans 15:14a (NKJV) Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are **full of goodness** 

Seventh, Healthy believers are experiencing personally the truths of God, which is experiential knowledge. v 14h

Romans 15:14b (NKJV) Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

# Eighth, Healthy believers **Understand & Use God's Word** to admonish each other (v.14c).

Romans 15:14c (NKJV) Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

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Eighth, Healthy believers understand & use God's Word to admonish each other (Romans 15:14c).