

## Capable to Counsel Rom 15:1-14

### Begin to live to be agreeable to our neighbor for his good (build him up)

- (1) The strong are expected to help carry the weaknesses of the weak
- (1) We are not strong just to make ourselves happy (please ourselves)
- (2) We live (as much as we are able) to be agreeable with our neighbor to build him up
- (3) Jesus lived before us this way: He took on Himself the criticisms and rebukes of the weak
- (4) OT references teach us that this is how a believer should live (patiently, with sure hope)
- (5) The God who patiently comes along side us to help us leads us to have the mind of Christ toward one another "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples" (John 13:35)
- (6) This is how we will be seen by the world in one accord with one voice
- (7-12) "Receive" all people (as much as able -Rom 12:18)
- (13) As we give ourselves in faith to the will of God, He will fill us with joy and peace, hope and power

### Able to admonish (capable to counsel)

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

Paul was personally convinced the Roman believers were filled with the "goodness" (virtue) of God and were being filled with the knowledge of God

### All have different experiences, all at different levels of maturity

Some have largely conquered besetting sins, others are beginning the conquest

Some understand that Jesus died for them, others have learned that they died with Jesus

Some are superstitious about "holy days" others are free from the Law

### All yielded and growing believers have something worth exporting—"able to admonish"

(even the disobedient believer teaches us by the things he suffers)

Admonish—*noutheteo* (root word: *mind*) to in mind, to caution or reprove gently, warn.

Jay Adams, *Competent to Counsel*, nouthetic counseling

We have experiences and encounters with God where the Holy Spirit has revealed things to us that others should know

### Different counsel and attitudes toward different needs

I Thes 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

**Warn---** unruly "put in mind"- *noutheteo* (not threaten)

### Comfort the feebleminded

Come alongside and console small-souled, little-souled,

### Support the weak

to cling to, to hold on to (be there for them) weak- especially those weak in temptation

### Be patient toward all

II Tim 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

### Remember:

Our responsibility toward the weak is to "help" them(1)

Our responsibility to the body of Christ is to "endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in ...peace

We are responsible to remember that Jesus attempted to teach all He encountered

Our responsibility is to be patient as we serve others