

"OUTBOUND"

John Tulio

March 22, 2009

OUR JOURNEY'S DIRECTION IS AWAY FROM OURSELVES.

Mark 8:34-36 *"If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?"* (NLT)

1 John 4:7 *Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.* (NRSV)

THE OUTBOUND JOURNEY CALLS FOR A LIFE OF LOVING SERVANTHOOD.

Gal. 5:13-14 *For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* (NRSV)

Phil. 2:5-8 *Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.* (NASB)

LOVING ONE ANOTHER IS THE CORE OF CHRIST'S TEACHING.

John 13:34-35 *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* (NRSV)

WHAT LOVING ONE ANOTHER MEANS:

1. Serving One Another.

1 Peter 4:10 *As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.* (NASB)

Rom. 15:2 *Each of us must please our neighbor for the good purpose of building up the neighbor.* (NRSV)

2. Accepting One Another.

Rom. 15:7 *Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.* (NASB)

3. Encouraging One Another.

1 Thes. 5:11 *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.* (NIV)

Heb. 10:25 *And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another.* (NLT)

4. Teaching One Another.

Rom. 15:14 *I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.* (NRSV)

5. Bearing One Another's Burdens.

Gal. 6:2 *Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.* (NRSV)

6. Confessing to One Another.

James 5:16a *Therefore confess your sins to one another.* (NRSV)

7. Praying for One Another.

James 5:16b *Pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.* (NRSV)

8. Giving Preference to One Another.

Rom. 12:10 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor.* (NASB)

9. Forgiving One Another.

Eph. 4:32 *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.* (NIV)

10. Living in Harmony with One Another.

Rom. 12:16 *Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.* (NRSV)

GOD'S IMAGE IS RESTORED IN US IN OUR LOVING ONE ANOTHER.

1 John 4:11-12 *Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.* (NRSV)