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Devotion for January 26th, 2022

Romans 15:1-13

As I was reading today's verses from Romans I couldn't help but thinking about divisiveness. It seems to be something pervasive in our world right now. Whether you're opening the newspaper, turning on the TV, or scrolling through social media, you're likely flooded with images and statements of arguments and fighting. It seems as though everyone wants to be right and no one wants to hear the other side.

Now I know this is an extreme view and there are plenty of wonderful, understanding, caring people in the world. In fact, these verses point to how we can be united:

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." (Romans 15:4-7)

We have been blessed by the gift of Scripture. God gave us His very word to guide our lives and interactions. We are sinful people, and unfortunately we will end up hurting those around us. However, because of the love and forgiveness of God we can turn around and forgive and love those whom He places in our lives.

I pray that the word of the Lord might encourage and uplift you, that it might unite you to those you encounter each day, as you are reminded they too are beloved by their Creator.

*God's blessings,
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