

¹MY BROTHERS, SHOW NO PARTIALITY AS YOU HOLD THE FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LORD OF GLORY. ²FOR IF A MAN WEARING A GOLD RING AND FINE CLOTHING COMES INTO YOUR ASSEMBLY, AND A POOR MAN IN SHABBY CLOTHING ALSO COMES IN, ³AND IF YOU PAY ATTENTION TO THE ONE WHO WEARS THE FINE CLOTHING AND SAY, "YOU SIT HERE IN A GOOD PLACE," WHILE YOU SAY TO THE POOR MAN, "YOU STAND OVER THERE," OR, "SIT DOWN AT MY FEET," ⁴HAVE YOU NOT THEN MADE DISTINCTIONS AMONG YOURSELVES AND BECOME JUDGES WITH EVIL THOUGHTS?

.001.tiff

⁵LISTEN, MY BELOVED BROTHERS, HAS NOT GOD CHOSEN THOSE WHO ARE POOR IN THE WORLD TO BE RICH IN FAITH AND HEIRS OF THE KINGDOM, WHICH HE HAS PROMISED TO THOSE WHO LOVE HIM? ⁶BUT YOU HAVE DISHONORED THE POOR MAN. ARE NOT THE RICH THE ONES WHO OPPRESS YOU, AND THE ONES WHO DRAG YOU INTO COURT? ⁷ARE THEY NOT THE ONES WHO BLASPHEME THE HONORABLE NAME BY WHICH YOU WERE CALLED? ⁸IF YOU REALLY FULFILL THE ROYAL LAW ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURE, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," YOU ARE DOING WELL.

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⁹BUT IF YOU SHOW PARTIALITY, YOU ARE COMMITTING SIN AND ARE CONVICTED BY THE LAW AS TRANSGRESSORS. ¹⁰FOR WHOEVER KEEPS THE WHOLE LAW BUT FAILS IN ONE POINT HAS BECOME GUILTY OF ALL OF IT. ¹¹FOR HE WHO SAID, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," ALSO SAID, "DO NOT MURDER." IF YOU DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY BUT DO MURDER, YOU HAVE BECOME A TRANSGRESSOR OF THE LAW. ¹²SO SPEAK AND SO ACT AS THOSE WHO ARE TO BE JUDGED UNDER THE LAW OF LIBERTY. ¹³FOR JUDGMENT IS WITHOUT MERCY TO ONE WHO HAS SHOWN NO MERCY. MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT. —JAMES 2:1-13

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FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK
AND TO SAVE THE LOST.
—LUKE 19:10

.005.tiff

AS IT IS WRITTEN: "NONE IS RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT ONE."
—ROMANS 3:10
FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.
—ROMANS 3:23
THEREFORE, JUST AS SIN CAME INTO THE WORLD THROUGH
ONE MAN, AND DEATH THROUGH SIN, AND SO DEATH SPREAD
TO ALL MEN BECAUSE ALL SINNED. —ROMANS 5:12
5MAY THE GOD OF ENDURANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT GRANT
YOU TO LIVE IN SUCH HARMONY WITH ONE ANOTHER, IN ACCORD
WITH CHRIST JESUS, 6THAT TOGETHER YOU MAY WITH ONE VOICE
GLORIFY THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
7THEREFORE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST HAS
WELCOMED YOU, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD. —ROMANS 15:5-7

.006.tiff

EVERY GOOD GIFT AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM ABOVE,
COMING DOWN FROM THE FATHER OF LIGHTS, WITH WHOM
THERE IS NO VARIATION OR SHADOW DUE TO CHANGE.
—JAMES 1:17

.007.tiff



2. A PICTURE OF PARTIALITY IN THE PEW
(JAMES 2:2-7)

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THREE ENEMIES OF BIBLICAL COMMUNITY:

1. PRIDE 2. PREJUDICE 3. PREFERENCE

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2. A PICTURE OF PARTIALITY IN THE PEW

• APPEARANCE

.010.tiff

DO NOT LOOK ON HIS
APPEARANCE OR ON THE
HEIGHT OF HIS STATURE...
FOR THE LORD SEES NOT
AS MAN SEES: MAN LOOKS
ON THE OUTWARD
APPEARANCE, BUT THE
LORD LOOKS ON THE
HEART. —1 SAMUEL 16:7

.011.tiff

2. A PICTURE OF PARTIALITY IN THE PEW

• RACE

.012.tiff

³⁴SO PETER OPENED HIS MOUTH AND SAID:
 “TRULY I UNDERSTAND THAT GOD SHOWS NO PARTIALITY,
³⁵BUT IN EVERY NATION ANYONE WHO FEARS HIM AND
 DOES WHAT IS RIGHT IS ACCEPTABLE TO HIM.” —ACTS 10:34-35

.013.tiff

2. A PICTURE OF PARTIALITY IN THE PEW
 • INTELLIGENCE
 “KNOWLEDGE” PUFFS UP, BUT LOVE BUILDS UP. —1 CORINTHIANS 8:1

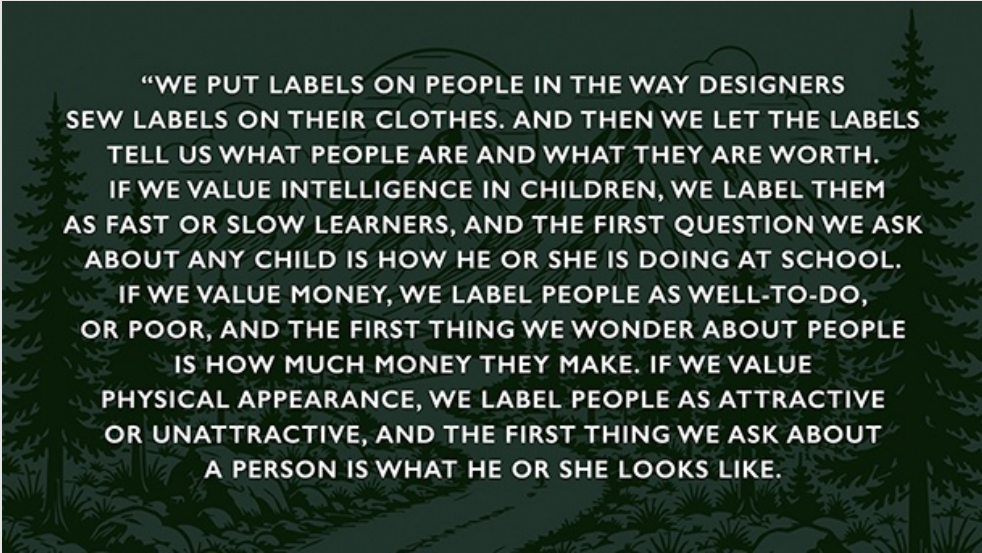
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2. A PICTURE OF PARTIALITY IN THE PEW
 • AFFLUENCE

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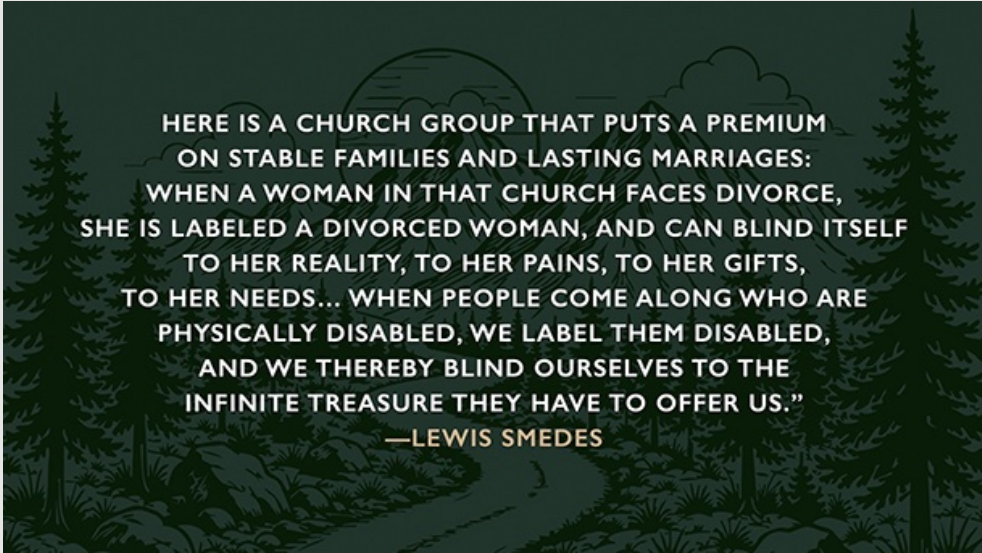
⁹LET THE LOWLY BROTHER
 BOAST IN HIS EXALTATION,
¹⁰AND THE RICH IN HIS
 HUMILIATION, BECAUSE LIKE A
 FLOWER OF THE GRASS HE WILL
 PASS AWAY. ¹¹FOR THE SUN RISES
 WITH ITS SCORCHING HEAT
 AND WITHERS THE GRASS;
 ITS FLOWER FALLS, AND ITS
 BEAUTY PERISHES. SO ALSO WILL
 THE RICH MAN FADE AWAY
 IN THE MIDST OF HIS PURSUITS.
 —JAMES 1:9-11

.016.tiff



“WE PUT LABELS ON PEOPLE IN THE WAY DESIGNERS SEW LABELS ON THEIR CLOTHES. AND THEN WE LET THE LABELS TELL US WHAT PEOPLE ARE AND WHAT THEY ARE WORTH. IF WE VALUE INTELLIGENCE IN CHILDREN, WE LABEL THEM AS FAST OR SLOW LEARNERS, AND THE FIRST QUESTION WE ASK ABOUT ANY CHILD IS HOW HE OR SHE IS DOING AT SCHOOL. IF WE VALUE MONEY, WE LABEL PEOPLE AS WELL-TO-DO, OR POOR, AND THE FIRST THING WE WONDER ABOUT PEOPLE IS HOW MUCH MONEY THEY MAKE. IF WE VALUE PHYSICAL APPEARANCE, WE LABEL PEOPLE AS ATTRACTIVE OR UNATTRACTIVE, AND THE FIRST THING WE ASK ABOUT A PERSON IS WHAT HE OR SHE LOOKS LIKE.

.017.tiff



HERE IS A CHURCH GROUP THAT PUTS A PREMIUM ON STABLE FAMILIES AND LASTING MARRIAGES: WHEN A WOMAN IN THAT CHURCH FACES DIVORCE, SHE IS LABELED A DIVORCED WOMAN, AND CAN BLIND ITSELF TO HER REALITY, TO HER PAINS, TO HER GIFTS, TO HER NEEDS... WHEN PEOPLE COME ALONG WHO ARE PHYSICALLY DISABLED, WE LABEL THEM DISABLED, AND WE THEREBY BLIND OURSELVES TO THE INFINITE TREASURE THEY HAVE TO OFFER US.”

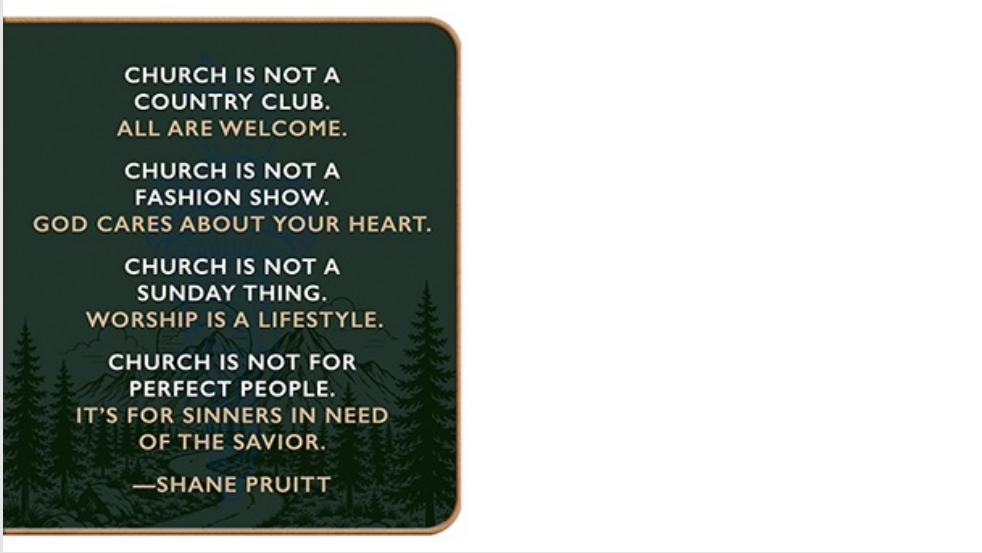
—LEWIS SMEDES

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“THERE ARE NO ORDINARY PEOPLE.” —C.S. LEWIS

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CHURCH IS NOT A COUNTRY CLUB.
ALL ARE WELCOME.

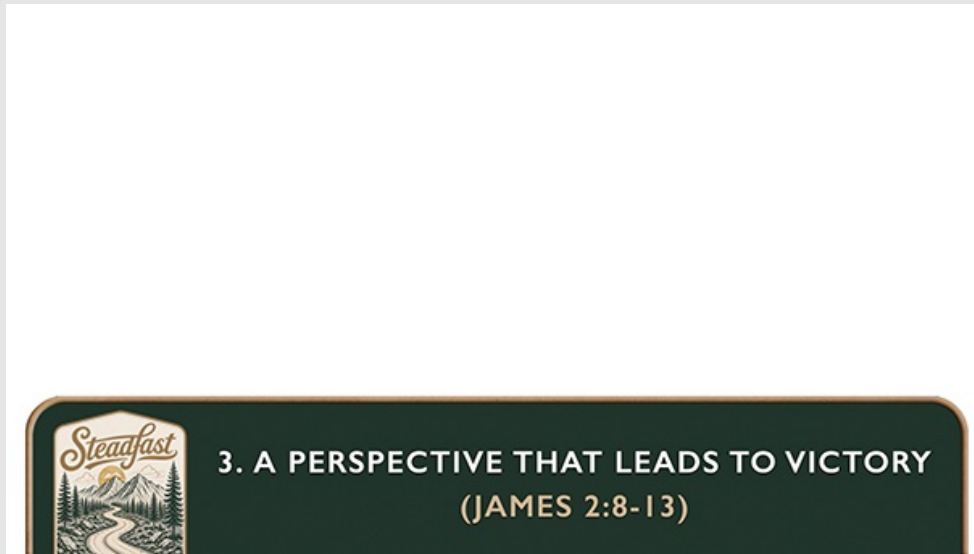
CHURCH IS NOT A FASHION SHOW.
GOD CARES ABOUT YOUR HEART.

CHURCH IS NOT A SUNDAY THING.
WORSHIP IS A LIFESTYLE.

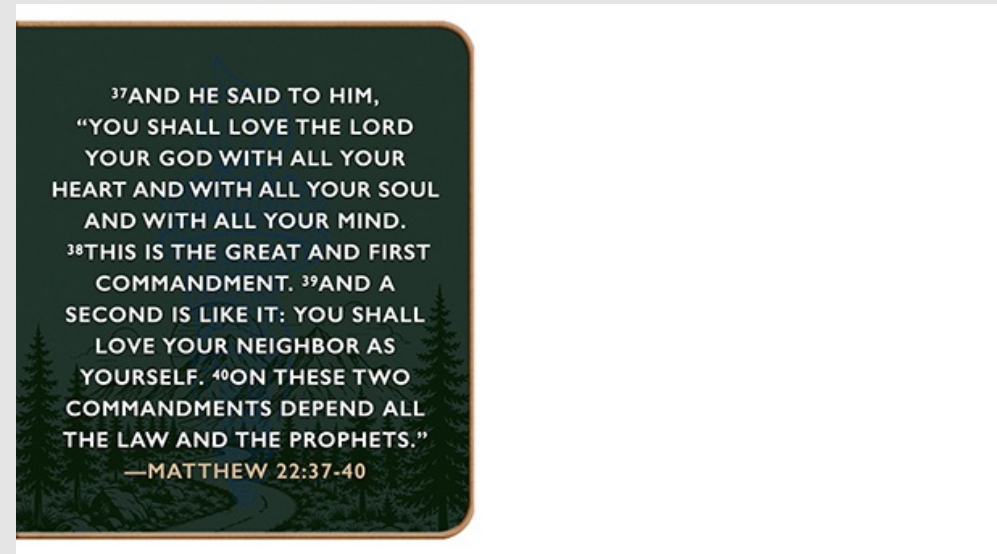
CHURCH IS NOT FOR PERFECT PEOPLE.
IT'S FOR SINNERS IN NEED OF THE SAVIOR.

—SHANE PRUITT

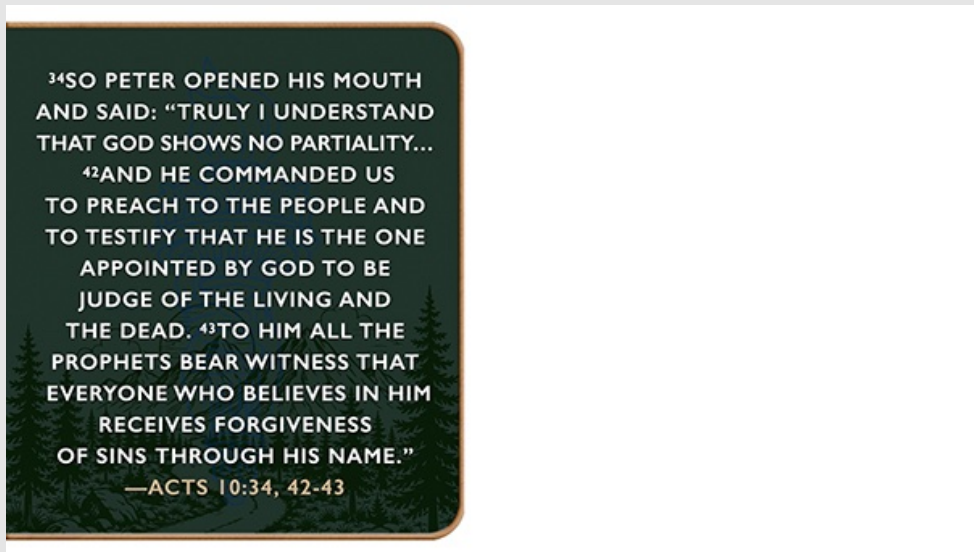
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