1 *Corinthians* 14:26-32 (*Opening*)

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. ²⁷ If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. ³⁰ If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, ³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.

1 Peter 3:13-17

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. To rit is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

Psalm 88

2

A Song. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. To the choirmaster: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

- O LORD, God of my salvation;

 I cry out day and night before you
 - I cry out day and night before you. Let my prayer come before you;

incline your ear to my cry!

- For my soul is full of troubles,
 - and my life draws near to Sheol.
- I am counted among those who go down to the pit;

I am a man who has no strength,

b like one set loose among the dead,

like the slain that lie in the grave,

like those whom you remember no more,

for they are cut off from your hand.

- You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep.
- Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves. Selah
- You have caused my companions to shun me;

	you have made me a horror to them.
	I am shut in so that I cannot escape;
9	my eye grows dim through sorrow.
	Every day I call upon you, O LORD;
	I spread out my hands to you.
10	Do you work wonders for the dead?
	Do the departed rise up to praise you? Selah
11	Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,
	or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
12	Are your wonders known in the darkness,
	or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
13	But I, O Lord, cry to you;
	in the morning my prayer comes before you.
14	O LORD, why do you cast my soul away?
	Why do you hide your face from me?
15	Afflicted and close to death from my youth up,
	I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.
16	Your wrath has swept over me;
	your dreadful assaults destroy me.
17	They surround me like a flood all day long;
	they close in on me together.
18	You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me;
	my companions have become darkness.

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all

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people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

2 Corinthians 5:12-15

We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.

For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Titus 2:1-8

¹ But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. ² Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴ and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶ Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

- ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

- ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Ephesians 4:1-16

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says,

"When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."

⁹ (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Leviticus 19:18

¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Romans 12:1-21

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation;

the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

John 21:4-17 (GTP)

⁴ It was now early in the morning. Jesus stood on the shore, but the students didn't know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Young men, you haven't caught anything, have you?" They answered, "That's right." ⁶ Jesus said to them, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some fish." They did so. There were so many fish that they were no longer able to pull the net into the boat.

⁷ Then the student to whom Jesus gave himself, for his good, said to Peter, "That is the Lord Jesus!" When Simon Peter heard this, he put on his clothes (he was stripped) and he jumped into the lake. ⁸ They were

near the shore, about 90 meters away. The other students came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish.

- ⁹ When they got to shore, they saw hot coals with some fish and bread cooking on them. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." ¹¹ Simon Peter got into the boat and dragged the net to shore. The net was full of big fish 153 of them! As large as they were, the net was still not torn.
- ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast!" None of the students dared to ask Jesus, "Who are you?" They knew that he was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus went and got some bread and fish. He gave it to them.
- 14 This was now the third time that Jesus showed himself to the students after he was raised from death. ¹⁵ After they had eaten breakfast, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you give yourself to me, for my good, expecting nothing in return, more than these?" Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love [am very fond of] you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ Jesus asked Peter the second time, "Simon, son of John, do you give yourself to me, for my good, expecting nothing in return?" Peter said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love [am very fond of] you." Jesus said to him, "Be a shepherd to my sheep." ¹⁷ Jesus asked him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love [are you very fond of] me?" Peter was sad, because the third time Jesus asked, "Do you love me?" Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love [am very fond of] you!" Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are

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alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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Numbers 6:24-26 (Closing)

- The LORD bless you and keep you;
- the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
- the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.