

## Care in the Age of Narcissism

Romans 12:9-21

- I. What does it mean to care? It means letting the Word through each member of the community. To help others grow. To reveal God. Care requires reflection into our religious pilgrimage and early life experiences.
- II. Origins of care: our parents are our primary caretakers and lay the foundation psychologically, emotionally, and physically for future caring (vertical) relationships. The role of the church, school, and family in adding to and molding our outlook and active sharing in relationships.  
How the church has ultimate responsibility to provide various levels of care because it oversees us from birth to death.  
Problems: families are ruptured and educational institutions are at a loss to curb the great modern love for self.
- III. Role of the church:
  - to heal
  - to guide
  - to sustain
  - to reconcile(Explicate according to your temperament.)
- IV. (Drawing from the Scripture, give a brief testimony or personal experience when one had to show or was shown care by another.)
- V. Genuine care. Example. Persons who loved supremely: prophets, saints, Jesus, Gandhi, and the countless uncelebrated whom one encounters daily.
- VI. Why is it difficult to care for another?  
Why do we give up in the process of caring?  
Do we understand and feel God's deep purpose and clear models of care?  
Do we have a natural desire to care?  
Have we experienced the primacy of God's care for each of us?
- VII. Fruits of care:
  - brings greater self awareness

allows one to mature in the world and enables one's affections to grow  
allows those who receive care to look through you and see the Ultimate  
Being.

Care transcends creeds, color; lets men and women feel commonality in this  
narcissistic age.

Care is the foundation for proclamation.