

## 8—The Beautiful Spectrum

2/27/22

### INTRO:

#### I. → **Philippians 2:1-4**

*2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being **like-minded**, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.*

*→ 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility **value** others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the **interests** of the others.*

II. Not to argue, but to inspire and encourage

III. A message for those whom it is not about

### BODY:

#### I. **The Mindfulness of Words**

*by being **like-minded**, having the same love, being one in spirit and of **one mind***

Grk (*phronéo*) mindfulness

A. Love demands that we consider how we talk to one another.

##### 1) **Ephesians 4:29**

*Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

##### 2) **EVERY GENERATION NEEDS TO FIND NEW WORDS**

- a) The words idiot (IQ 0–25), imbecile (IQ 26–50) and moron (IQ 51–75) used to be medical terms
- b) The “R” word was implemented in the 1960’s
- c) It was phased out with Rosa’s Law in 2010
- d) Mental Retardation replaced with Intellectual Disability

- B. Not all disabilities are problems that need to be fixed.
- 1) Parents of children with disabilities not only face the challenge of the disability, but also the judgment and ignorance of family and friends
  - 2) **Psalms 145:8-9**  
*The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.*
  - 3) **MYTHS ABOUT INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY:**
    - a) It is the result of inherent sinfulness in mankind
    - b) It is the result of vaccination or parental error
      - i) ID affects 2-3% of the population
      - ii) 50% are a genetic disorder
      - iii) 5% are inherited
      - iv) The rest are of unknown origin
      - v) Down's syndrome caused by third copy of chromosome 21
    - c) It is something gone wrong in God's creation  
*God did not make a mistake when He placed His Image in children with physical or intellectual challenges*

## II. The Healing of Inclusion

in **humility value** others above yourselves

Grk (*tapeinophrosúne*) humble mind

Grk (*hegoúmenoi*) esteem, value

- A. What needs to be healed is not the child but the culture.
- 1) **Hebrews 12:13**  
*And straight paths make for your feet, that that which is [disabled] may not be turned aside, but rather be healed. (YLT)*
  - 2) **ADA LAWS—IT IS SOCIETY THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE**
    - a) What if it causes us a little more work?
    - b) What if it costs us a little more money?
    - c) What if it causes a little distraction?

B. The Body of Christ is not complete without all God's children.

1) **Romans 12:4-5**

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same **function**, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member **belongs** to all the others.*

2) **AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER**

40% with ID have ASD; 70% with ASD have ID

a) have trouble relating to others or not have an interest in other people at all

b) avoid eye contact and want to be alone

c) prefer not to be held or cuddled, or might cuddle only when they want to

d) repeat or echo words or phrases said to them, or repeat words or phrases in place of normal language

e) repeat actions over and over again

f) have trouble adapting when a routine changes

g) have unusual reactions to the way things smell, taste, look, feel, or sound

3) **BRENT PLAYING PIANO AT CLARK COLLEGE**

### **III. The Value of Integration**

*not **looking** to your own **interests** but each of you to the **interests** of the others*

Grk (*skopéo*) look upon, see, consider, take notice

A. All of us experience disability in one form or another.

1) **Galatians 4:13-14**

*As you know, it was because of [a disability] that I first preached the gospel to you, and even though [it] was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.*

2) Grk (*asthéneia*) non-strength, disability

3) **ALL BEING ISOLATED DURING THE PANDEMIC**

B. It is up to all of us to make room in our hearts and lives.

1) **Luke 14:13-14**

*"But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the [injured], the [disabled], the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."*

2) **LETTING MADDOX SCORE THE BALL**

#### **OTHER SCRIPTURES:**

Job 29:15-16

I was eyes to the blind  
and feet to the lame.

I was a father to the needy;  
I took up the case of the stranger.

Leviticus 19:14

"Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the Lord."