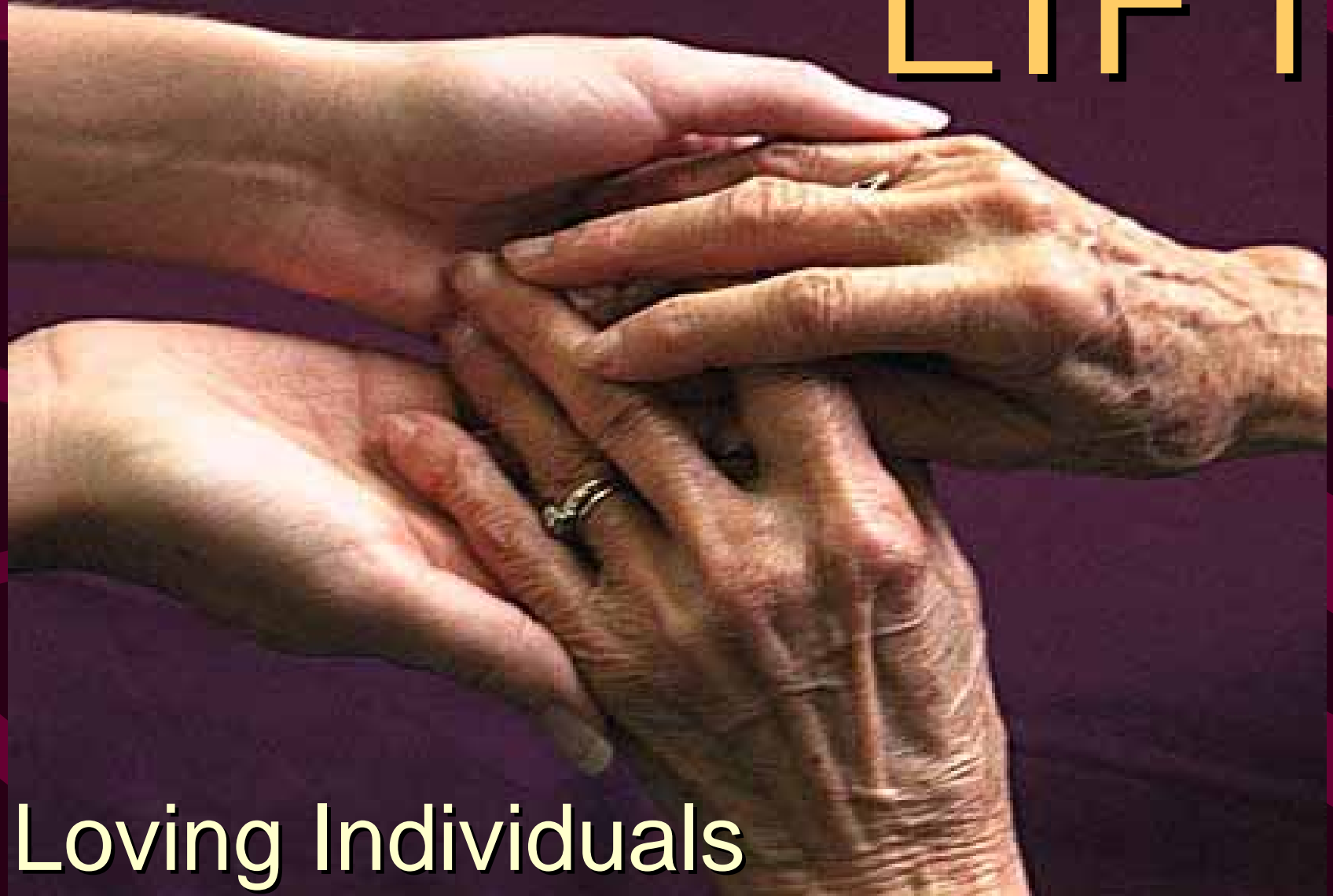




# LIFT



Loving Individuals  
in Final Transition

# What is LIFT?

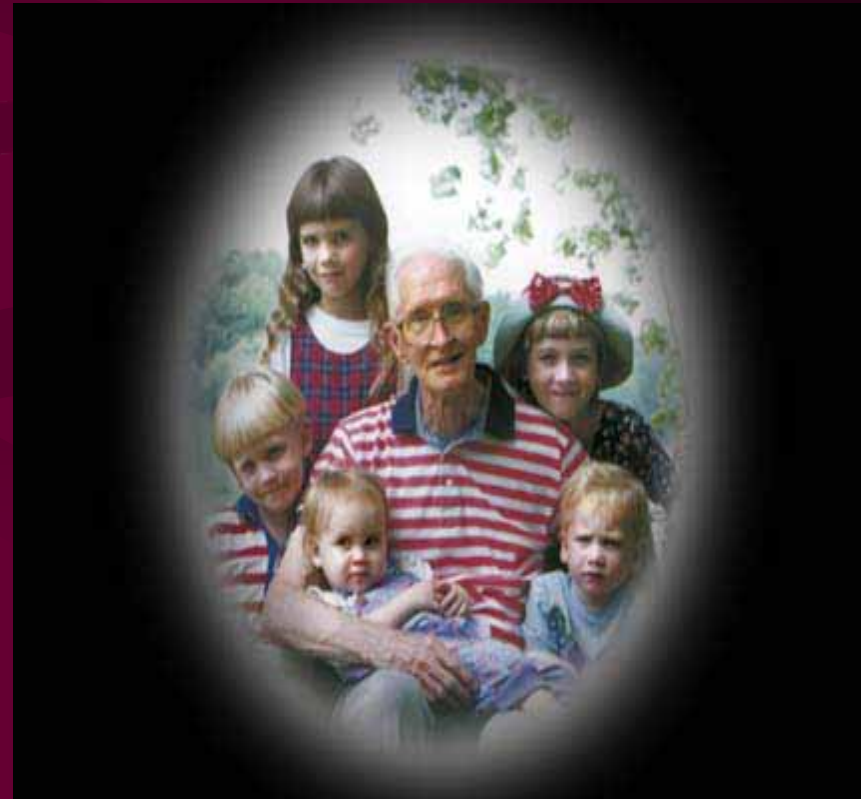
- LIFT is a local church-based ministry of compassionate care and assistance.
- The goal of LIFT is for believers to care for the non-medical needs of fellow believers.
- LIFT volunteers demonstrate love, compassion, and concern for individuals experiencing a terminal illness, physical setback, or other debilitating condition.

# Philosophy of LIFT

- LIFT affirms life and regards dying as a normal process in a fallen and sinful world (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27; Psalm 116:15).
- LIFT will never hasten or postpone death, but enable people to live out their lives in dignity and to God's glory.
- Through LIFT's personalized services and a caring church community, individuals and their families can prepare for death in a manner acceptable to them and honoring to God.

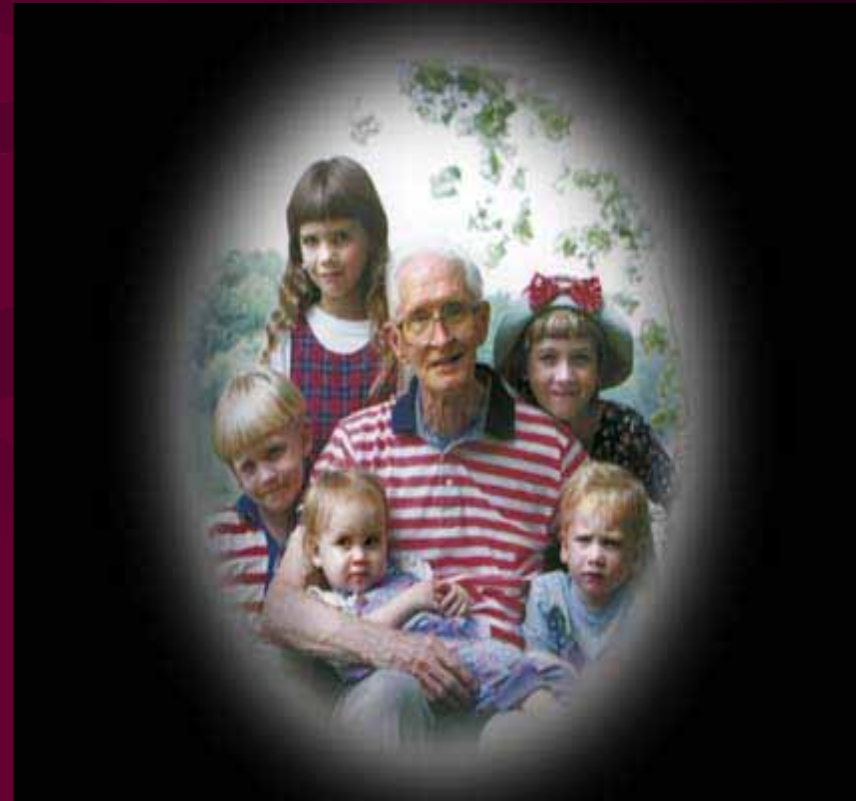
# Guiding Principles of LIFT

- Oppose all forms of euthanasia and assisted suicide
- Help draft and implement biblically appropriate medical directives
- Cooperate with medical professions and other agencies



# Guiding Principles of LIFT

- Affirm the intrinsic God-given worth of each individual regardless of spiritual condition (Genesis 1:26-28; 9:6).
- Obey the commandment to “love your neighbor...” (Leviticus 19:18; Luke 10:27).
- Serve as advocates for individuals to medical providers



# LIFT Conveys Messages to the Community

- Human life is sacred
- God is sovereign
- The sacrifice and resurrection of Christ conquers death
- The local church is the center for ministry



# Practical Services Provided by LIFT



- Prayer and support
- Friendship
- Housekeeping
- Yard maintenance
- Meals

# Practical Services Provided by LIFT



- Transportation
- Respite care
- Pain management
- Advance directives
- Bereavement care

\* This is not an exhaustive list.



Why should we  
be involved in  
**LIFT?**



# Because of Christ

Romans 15:1-6



1. Because of Christ,  
we ought to share  
in the burdens of  
others (vs. 1).



“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.”


This passage is about bearing with those who are spiritually – not physically – weak, but it informs our attitude toward those who are physically weak. What should it be? An attitude of service and self-denial.

Those who struggle with a physical illness or disability – either the patient himself or his caregivers – may also be struggling spiritually.

“Bearing with” them means having patience with them, consoling them, tending to their needs, giving them time and attention, forgiving them, accepting them, and more.



2. Because of Christ,  
we ought to shift  
attention from  
ourselves to others  
(vs. 2).



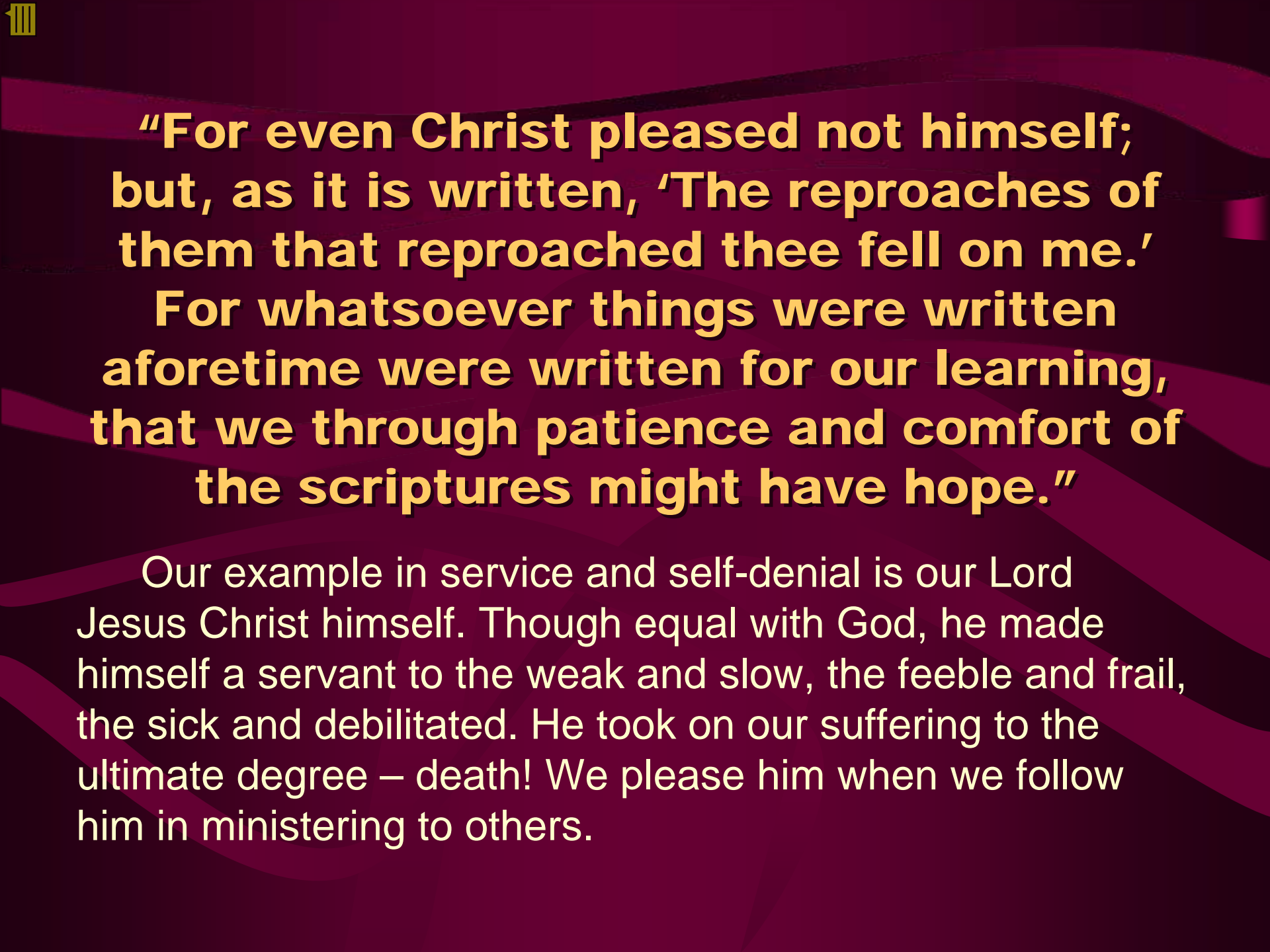
“Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.”

Here, as in many other passages of scripture, Paul admonishes us to think of the needs of others and not just our own (see Philippians 2:4).

Those who are physically infirm often have overwhelming difficulties that can make our own needs pale by comparison. It's healthy to get our minds off our own problems and concentrate – for at least a portion of each week – on others who struggle with the most basic needs.



3. Because of Christ,  
we ought to submit  
to trials on behalf  
of others (vss. 3-4)



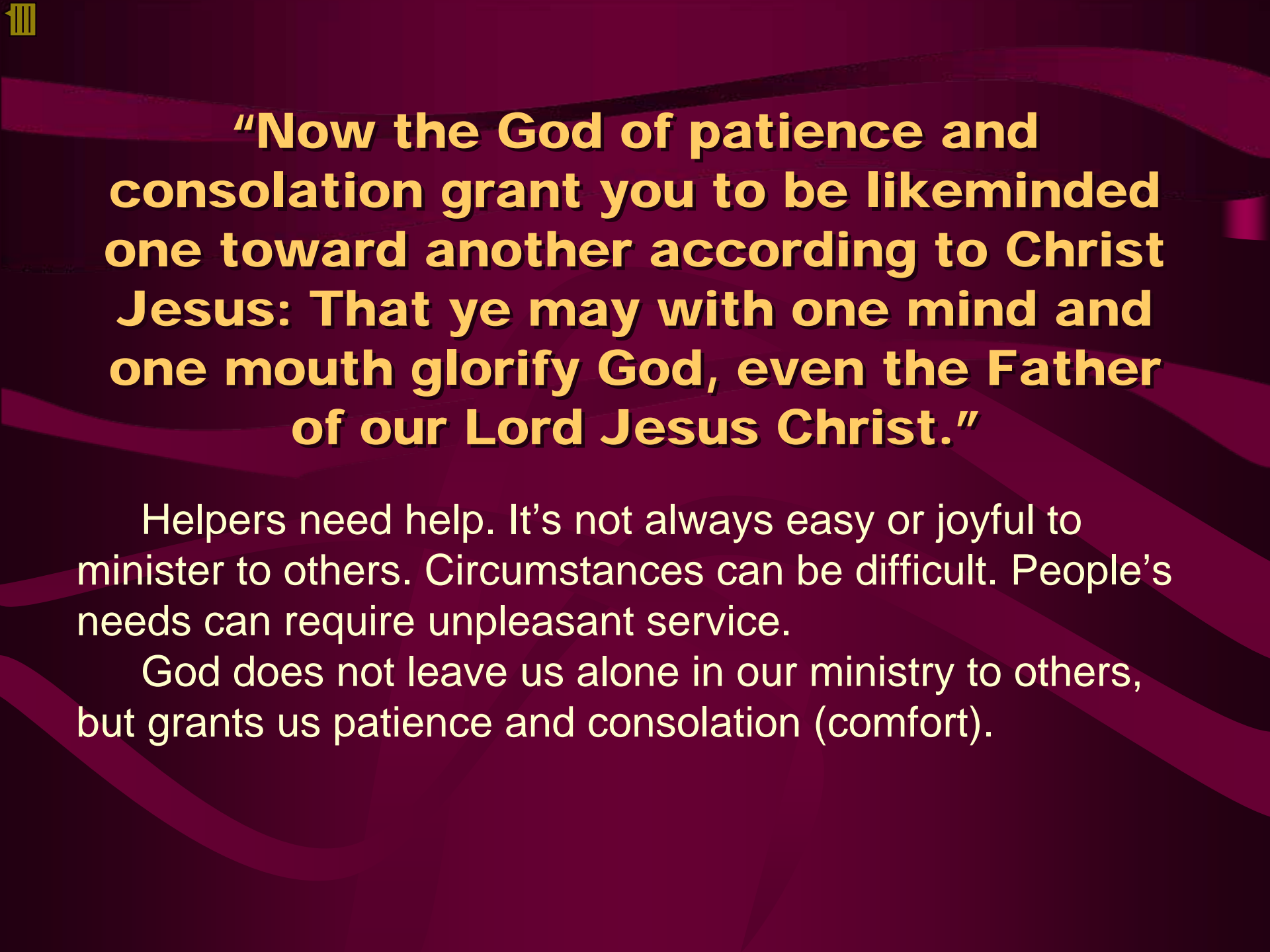
“For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, ‘The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.’

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

Our example in service and self-denial is our Lord Jesus Christ himself. Though equal with God, he made himself a servant to the weak and slow, the feeble and frail, the sick and debilitated. He took on our suffering to the ultimate degree – death! We please him when we follow him in ministering to others.




4. Because of Christ,  
we ought to show  
the glory of God  
through unity with  
others (vss. 5-6).



"Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Helpers need help. It's not always easy or joyful to minister to others. Circumstances can be difficult. People's needs can require unpleasant service.

God does not leave us alone in our ministry to others, but grants us patience and consolation (comfort).



Service is not without reward. One reward of a ministry such as LIFT is the strengthening of unity among believers. As we bear with the weaknesses of others, we grow in unity with them.

We also grow in unity with those we serve alongside. The entire church body is strengthened.

The reward of selfless service and unity is seeing God glorified. By showing the love of Christ, we bring glory and honor to Him.



Because of Christ's ministry to us, we ought to be ready to minister to others with the same spirit, submission, and sacrifice. (Romans 15:1-6)

# LIFT



...helping the Body of Christ articulate the biblical pro-life message in word and deed

LIFT is a ministry of



[www.bfl.org](http://www.bfl.org)