WEEP, REJOICE, & HARMONIZE

(Romans 12:9-16)

INTRODUCTION - (v15-16) "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another"

(RSV) "Live in harmony with one another"

(1 Peter 3:8) "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another, love as brothers, be tender-hearted, be courteous."

(1 Corinthians 12:14, v20, v21, v25) we are to function as a body.

(Romans 12:10) "brotherly love" is the illustration to function as a family.

(v15-16) now function as a community that cares for the joys and sorrows of one another.

Our Hymnal has a section titled: Church – One Another, hymns #702 – 759

Poet John Donne wrote "No Man Is An Island," meaning, we cannot live in isolation.

1. "WEEP WITH THOSE WHO WEEP"

Two reasons Jesus went to Bethany at the death of Lazarus:

(John 11:34-36) "He said, Where have you laid him? They said, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, See how He loved him."

Earlier, (John 11:11) "He said to them, Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go to wake him up." (v14) "Then Jesus said to them plainly, Lazarus is dead."

2. "REJOICE WITH THOSE WHO REJOICE"

Jesus also went to the funeral of Lazarus to offer hope

(John 11:17) "So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days." (v25-26) "Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Add "rejoice" when offering hope at the funeral of a Christian.

(Romans 5:1-2) "... and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

(Romans 12:12) "Rejoicing in hope"

3. "BE OF THE SAME MIND TOWARD ONE ANOTHER"

In our community of believers, the church, we are to think alike in our care. We are to look "toward one another." Remember, we are to be "with those" who weep and rejoice.