<u>Serve Humbly</u>

Galatians **5:13b** ...rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Serve humbly... that sounds like a relatively easy task, right? Maybe not, at least not for our human natures. The very fact that this encouragement to serve humbly is included in the Word points out the struggle we all face. The ego is strong in each of us. We live in a generation which encourages it.

The LORD encourages us to do the right thing, which is the opposite of the human thing we hear and feel. Since this is such a challenge for our natures, we need to encourage each other in humility.

* **Romans 15:5-6** May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You may ask, how can I encourage others when I suffer from the same pride issues? That is a fair question. Two suggestions: first and foremost, stay connected to the encouragement from God's Word. Read and search the Scriptures often, daily, hourly, at any and every opportunity. He alone can give you the strength to react in your life as a humble, faithful Christian. Remember the encouragement from the Apostle Paul...

Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Second, you need to encourage yourself and others with actions that reflect the love of God. God never asks you to do something without providing the way to accomplish it. Your actions have a strong influence on your attitudes. If you are having a bad day, smile. Your body reacts favorably to the smile, even though it seems so contrary to your thoughts. To grow in humility, practice being humble, even though it may feel awkward. Most importantly, pray that the Lord enables you to be humble and the servant to others. Live in him, with him, for him.

Your life is not your own. Your life is your personal ministry to God.