

5 August 2012: Preached by Preacher Joseph Poon

Message Topic: **Denying Self to Follow Christ**

Scripture Text: Romans 15: 1-13

1. The focus of the world is on self and making money for themselves. As Christians, we must be careful not to have the mindset of the world to please ourselves. We are in Christ and our behaviour and actions ought to be Christ-like. Our theology ought not to make us puff up and belittle others.
2. The reason that we should deny self in our Christian life is that we can then edify and build up someone else. If we care only for ourselves, then we will never be able to help others.
3. The Bible tells us Jesus Christ is the role model for self-denial. The Lord Jesus did not please Himself but was willing to bear the reproach for us and to give His life on the cross for us. This is all done for us that we might be saved. Christ gave His own life for us. We must follow His example to give up and sacrifice for others even though it will not be easy.
4. The purpose of denying self is that God may be glorified. If we forget this truth, then we end up living a self-denial life to make ourselves look good and for others to honour us.