

# REFLECTION

BLD NEWARK COVENANT COMMUNITY

## THROUGH THE EYES OF GOD

*“Not as man sees does God see, because he sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart.” (Sm 16:7)*

How many times have we distanced ourselves from people who look dirty and who smell offensive? Our first reaction is not compassion but repulsion. We do not want to be near this kind of people at all, never mind entertaining them. But what would Jesus do in this case? God sees the heart of a person, his pain, his loneliness, his fears, his yearnings, his disappointments and He never judges by looks or stature in life. He would love these people the same way he loves you and me. He would offer them His comforting friendship.

It is easy to choose friends based on their financial means or status in society. It is human nature to want to be identified with people of influence, power and riches. But the Lord is reminding us that we must love the poor, too, as much as we love those around us who are materially beneficial to us and pleasing to be with.

In our community, we encounter some members that we would rather stay away from because he or she is not our type. With God, every person counts and each one is special to Him. To become true disciples of Christ, we must embrace all of God’s people, most especially the unlovable and treat them with dignity and care. How much better we can be when we are being what God created us to be— to give love and be of service to the least of our brothers and sisters.

At the heart of who we are as a community is Christ’s call to love one another. Whatever diminishes love diminishes the community. A measure of our sincere devotion to God and our genuine care for each other is how well we deal with frustration and disappointment. Both are a normal part of life but they need not lead to anger, rash judgment or quarrels, but rather to tolerance, patience and trust after the example of our Lord Jesus. We must again remind ourselves to see these circumstances through the eyes of God. God is eternal, perfect and infinite. We are temporal, flawed and finite, yet in God’s boundless compassion, He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us have divine eyes so we can mirror His unconditional love to others.

We are all God’s children and in faith we are to take care of each other, lift up the downtrodden, build up relationships and aim for a solid community united strongly in love and humility. These can only be realized when we finally see through the eyes of God!