**The Imitation of Christ by Thomas A. Kempis**

**BOOK ONE:** THOUGHTS HELPFUL IN THE LIFE OF THE SOUL

**Chapter 2:** Having a Humble Opinion of Self

**Definition and Scriptures:**

**Charity:** Charity, in Christian thought, the highest form of love, signifying the reciprocal love between God and man that is made manifest in unselfish love of one's fellow men. ... (britanica.com)

I Corinthians 13:1-3: If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have a faith that can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Proverbs 12:25: Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.

**Quote:**

"If I knew all things in the world and had not charity, what would it profit me before God Who will judge me by my deeds?"

**Discussion:**

How does charity bring us closer to God?