

Patient with Differences

*Rejoice with those who rejoice, and
weep with those who weep.
Be of the same mind toward one another;
do not be haughty in mind,
but associate with the lowly.
Do not be wise in your own estimation. (Romans 12:15-16, NASB)*

Here in the Amazon section of the zoo,
in a single cage I'm watching
the squirrel monkeys nimbly leaping around in incessant motion.
Meanwhile, slow-moving animals graze on the ground, and
a two-toed sloth just hangs there.

God designs us so differently.
We share the same space and time.
But our metabolisms,
bodies,
experiences, and
specific needs
are so varied.
We each perceive reality through
our individual eyes.

Lord, I am a limited creature.
Keep me humble.
Help me always be patient with my fellow creatures,
always kind to them,
always anxious to learn from them.

*Father, we walk and work each day
in a garden of precious people, with various
personalities, strengths, and needs.
Help us to walk lovingly,
valuing each beautiful flower.*

Hymn: [Praise to You, Giver of Life!](http://lnwhymns.com/Hymn.aspx?ID=252)
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