

The background features a large, stylized graphic of hands. On the left, there are several hands in a light beige color, appearing to be reaching out or holding each other. On the right, there are several hands in a light grey color, also appearing to be reaching out or holding each other. The hands are arranged in a way that suggests a sense of community or support.

# Doug's Reflection

**06-28-26 THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

I want to return today to a topic about which I recently wrote: the topic of idolatry and how idolatry is defined. In that post, I used Saint Paul's definition of idolatry as greed. Greed - - - not desire! The difference between desire and greed is like the difference between a camp stove and a raging inferno burning down your house. Simple desire is constructive. It motivates us to work and to be productive; it's what I have always referred to as "creative discontent." Proverbs 16:26 --- "The appetite of workers works for them." Greed, on the other hand, is dangerous and destructive. It is desire out of control. It is the condition that puts something - - - anything - - - ahead of God, even if only for a short while. Everyday greed, then, is nothing less than an attack on the very nature and character of God. No wonder Saint Paul warns so sternly against it!