

A Perfect "10"... NOT!

1 Corinthians 12

March 6, 2022

1. Each and every one of you are a vital part of the Body and we need you.

The Problem of "Comparisonitis"

vv 15-16 - If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

The truth: God has given you something, thru His Spirit, for the common good.

vv 4-7 - Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

The Problem of Celebrities

Matthew 6:1-2 ^(ESV) - "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward."

There is a Gap Where You are Not.

v 17 - If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

Ephesians 4:15-16 ^(ESV) - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. *NIV: as each part does its work.*

2. You Need the Other Parts of the Body.

The Problem of Pride.

A Spiritual Reality: v 26 - If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Another Spiritual Reality: The body only grows as each part does its work. (vv 21-22 - The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.)

The Threat of Diversity.

Principle: If we do only what is safe and which we know we can do, we will never know what it is for God to do a mighty work amongst us.

2 Corinthians 12:9 ^(ESV) - But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

3. Applying this to our Church:

Q: What is Purpose of the Church? A: To bring glory to Jesus Christ.

Q: How does the church bring glory to Christ? A: By bearing witness to all people that Jesus is the Christ

Q: How does the church bear witness to all people that Jesus is the Christ? A: By calling them to repentance & faith

By demonstrating the power of His love

John 13:34-35 ^(ESV) - A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

A Truth to Remember: If you are truly a Christian, you are a part of the body of Christ. He is the head and the parts are connected to the head only as they are connected to the body.

A Challenge to Consider: Are you a functioning part of the body of Christ? Are you contributing to its growth and health?

One thing I heard this morning was...

One way I heard the gospel this morning was...