



The Body Right

By Johnny Caruso on April 26, 2024

TODAY'S READING: 1 Corinthians 12

The human body is an awesome wonder. Doctors and biologists are still discovering how and why things work the way they do. There are whole systems in place, like the nervous system and respiratory system, where different parts of the body interact to accomplish specific tasks, often without our knowledge.

Paul talks about how each member of the Church is needed to complete the ministry of the Church. Each part of the body, when working properly, will build up the body. The problem was the body of Corinth was messed up! Quite a few people in the Corinthian church thought their gifts were better and had higher value than the others.

In verses 15-20, Paul addresses our tendency to undervalue our place in the body of Christ. Just because you are a foot and not a hand does not mean you are not important to the Body. God has arranged the parts of the human body to serve certain functions for life to flourish, and also in the Church. Can you imagine being at a church where everyone has the same gifts, strengths, and weaknesses you have? It sounds very limited in the scope of the ministry. Likewise, what about being at a church where everyone has the gift of teaching but no one has the gift of service? Or how about a church with the gift of administration but no one with the gift of leadership? These gifts are all needed and flourish when they are complemented by other gifts.

What about those who take pride in their gifts and overvalue their contribution to the church? Paul talks about this problem in verse 21 and following. He refers to one part of the body saying to another, "I have no need of you." The Corinthians ranked certain gifts as better than others and, therefore, more indispensable in their mind and Paul is saying to them, "if you really knew which gifts were indispensable you would not be boasting." There are parts of the human body you cannot live without. It is that way in the Church, also. When we recognize this truth, the body only gets stronger.

Paul's goal here is not to give us a lesson on the human body. He wants love to exist at a higher level in the church. Paul's overarching desire is that we care for one another and rejoice with those who rejoice and suffer with those who are suffering. Knowing your place in the body and serving with humility leads to unity and love here at FBC Fort Mill. Stay in your lane.

This is my last devotion. I want to thank you for putting up with me for a very long time. (Although it seems like we got here yesterday.) Trish and I love you and will miss you.

It has been a long run and don't break anything while I am gone.

PRAYER: Father, thank You for the gifts You have given us that make Your Church stronger for the gospel's sake.

Have an awesome weekend!

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: 1 Corinthians 14

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