

Everyone

Today's Message – "Everyone Is Important" (Part 3)

Message Study Guide

Introduction

For the past several weeks, we have been talking about the church. If we were talking about the church as a building, that would probably be a very boring subject. But we are talking about people who make up the church, the Body of Christ, not buildings. In this brief three part series, we have seen that Everyone is Invited, Everyone is Included, and Everyone is Important.

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul makes it clear that while everyone in the church is important, not everyone has the same functional role within the Body of Christ. While writing to the local church at Corinth, Paul used a word picture of a physical body to illustrate just how important each member really is to the church. Paul even went so far to say that individual members operating in their functional role within the church are absolutely "necessary". Simply put, each member is "indispensable".

We must all keep in mind that the closest any of us will ever be to Jesus Christ while on this earth is when we are with the Body of Christ. What a thought!

Discussion Points

1. The danger of being an autonomous Christian
2. Personal peace and satisfaction comes from realizing there is something bigger than ourselves.
3. Just as all parts of a physical body are important for it to function properly; the same must be true of the Body of Christ.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think that Paul would use a somewhat humorous illustration of a talking foot or nose to make his point to the church at Corinth?
2. How does the truth of the importance of the different parts of the Body of Christ relate to the words of Jesus when He said, " And where two or three of you are gathered in my name, I will be in the midst of them"? (Matthew 18:20)
3. Why do you think so many people judge their value to the Body of Christ by their gifts, talents, or abilities rather than judging their value by the scriptures like 1 Corinthians 12?

Think About It

According to 1 Corinthians 12:18, when God saved us and placed us in the Body of Christ, He sovereignly chose how you could best serve the Body by equipping you with all you need to accomplish His purpose.

Do Something About It!

What safeguards can you build into your life that will protect you against having an independent or autonomous spirit?

Be Willing To Change

"I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me, ye can do nothing". (John 15:5)