**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | You are Somebody in His Body |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2199 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The church is described in many different ways.
      1. Revelation 19:7-9
         1. The church is described as the bride of Christ.
      2. 1 Peter 2:5
         1. The church is also described as His spiritual building with Christ as the foundation.
      3. Revelation 19:19
         1. The church is described as an army, and Christ is our victorious King.
      4. Psalm 100:3
         1. The church is described as a flock of sheep; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
         2. John 10:11
            1. Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd who leads His flock.
      5. Ephesians 1:22-23
         1. The church is also described as His body; Jesus is the head, and we are the members.
   2. All of the many ways the church is described in the Bible speak of community and togetherness, not individualism.
      1. Romans 12:4-5
         1. The Bible teaches that we are members of one another.
   3. Jesus Christ and the church are not identical, but they are inseparable.
      1. If we love God, then we will love His church.
      2. If we do not desire fellowship with the saints here on Earth, then we have no prospect of fellowship with the saints in Heaven.
      3. Love for Jesus and love for what Jesus loves are inseparable.
   4. 1 Corinthians 12:12-18
   5. There are four principles from this passage in 1 Corinthians that will show us who we are in Him as a part of His body.
2. IN A BODY, THERE IS A MANIFESTED PERSON
   1. All we know about one another is through the body.
      1. It is through the body that we walk, talk, think, write, etc.
   2. The world knows the Lord Jesus Christ through His body, which is us - the church.
      1. God is a spirit, and a spirit is invisible.
      2. My spirit, the real me that is inside my earthly house or body, is invisible.
      3. Jesus lives in His body, which is the church; and Jesus is manifested by His body.
         1. We are to manifest the Lord Jesus Christ.
   3. The church is the visible part of the invisible Jesus, and Jesus is the invisible part of the visible church.
      1. Together, we manifest the Lord Jesus Christ.
   4. Jesus Christ is the only one who has ever lived the Christian life.
      1. If we are to live the Christian life, it will be Jesus living in and through us.
      2. If Jesus is manifested in our homes, it will be because Jesus is manifesting Himself through us.
      3. It is not us imitating Jesus.
         1. Nobody can be Jesus but Jesus.
         2. Colossians 1:27
3. IN A BODY, THERE IS A MINISTERING PURPOSE
   1. The purpose of your body is to minister to you.
      1. Your body is here to serve you.
         1. Your eyes are here to help you see.
         2. Your hands are here to feed you and to write for you.
      2. The church is here to minister to the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. We are here to minister to Him.
      3. Your body does not have any plans of its own.
         1. Your body is to serve you; you do not serve your body.
      4. We often tell Jesus what we are going to do for Him.
         1. He does not want us to do anything for Him; He wants to do something through us.
         2. The church is to hear what the head (Jesus Christ) says to do and then to do it.
   2. God has gifted each of us with different abilities, but the best ability is availability.
      1. Are you available to the Lord Jesus Christ?
   3. We are His hands and His feet; we are the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      1. We are part of His body, the local church, to serve Him.
4. IN A BODY, THERE IS A MOTIVATING POWER (1 Corinthians 12:13)
   1. The life, or motivating power, of the human body is the human spirit.
   2. Genesis 2:7
      1. God breathed into man the breath of life; and man became a living soul, animated by the spirit within him.
   3. Luke 23:46
      1. When Jesus died upon the cross, He gave up the spirit.
   4. The motivating power of Jesus’ body is the Holy Spirit.
      1. The Holy Spirit is to be the life of the local church.
      2. Without the Holy Spirit of God, there is no power in the church.
         1. The church is organized, but it is not an organization.
         2. The church is an organism; it has life.
            1. An organization does not necessarily have life.
      3. The church is not a corporation with Jesus as the president; it is a body with Jesus as the head.
   5. 1 Corinthians 12:13
      1. This passage refers to Spirit baptism.
         1. We are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ.
         2. This takes place when we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; when we receive Christ as our personal Savior.
            1. When we receive Christ as Lord, we are baptized into the body of Christ, and we are filled with the Spirit.
            2. Not only are we placed into the body of Christ, but the Holy Spirit is placed into us once we are saved, at the moment of our conversion.
      2. Once we are placed into the body of Christ, we receive our spiritual gift.
         1. 1 Corinthians 12:18
         2. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we receive the power to use our spiritual gift for the glory of God.
      3. Romans 8:9
         1. Every believer is baptized by the Holy Spirit; no one is left out.
5. IN A BODY, THERE IS A MUTUAL PROGRAM (1 Corinthians 12:14-18)
   1. There is no such thing as a Lone Ranger Christianity.
   2. We are all here to show the life of the Lord Jesus Christ to our communities.
      1. A healthy body is coordinated, organized.
      2. 1 Corinthians 14:40
   3. As individuals, we are all very different; but there are three things we all have in common if we are truly born again.
      1. We have the same life.
         1. 1 Corinthians 12:15-16
         2. We are not in competition with one another.
         3. No part of the body can function as it ought apart from the other members of the body.
         4. Christians are to operate along with other Christians.
            1. We need one another.
            2. 1 Corinthians 12:17-18
      2. We show the same love.
         1. 1 Corinthians 12:25-26
         2. We are in the same body, and we are to love one another.
            1. If one member is sick, it means that they are to be cared for.
         3. We are not to be arrogant within the body of Christ.
         4. We are not to show envy.
            1. One spiritual gift is not to be esteemed above another.
         5. The members of the body of Christ are not to be at war with one another.
         6. There is no self-sufficiency; we need one another.
         7. There can be no disunity; we’re in it together.
      3. We have the same Lord.
         1. 1 Corinthians 12:27
         2. Loyalty to the head, Jesus Christ, has to be loyalty to one another.
         3. If we are right with Jesus, then we will be right with one another. There can be no disunity.
         4. We cannot be loyal to Jesus without being loyal to His church.
            1. Loyalty to Jesus is loyalty to what Jesus loves.
            2. If we love Jesus, then we will love what Jesus loves.
6. CONCLUSION
   1. As believers, we need to discover our spiritual gift.
   2. We also need to accept ourselves.
      1. We cannot be someone else, and someone else can never be us.
      2. God has uniquely gifted each of us, and we have a special place of service within the body of Christ.
   3. We need to give ourselves.
      1. Every member of the body is both a receiver and a transmitter.
      2. We are here to receive from other members, and we’re here to give to the other members.
   4. We need to be ourselves for Jesus.
      1. Everybody is somebody in His body.
   5. We become part of this body by receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31