

SERMON OUTLINE

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

- a) The church is described in many different ways.
 - i) Revelation 19:7-9
 - (1) The church is described as the bride of Christ.
 - ii) 1 Peter 2:5
 - (1) The church is also described as His spiritual building with Christ as the foundation.
 - iii) Revelation 19:19
 - (1) The church is described as an army, and Christ is our victorious King.
 - iv) 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
 - (a) Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd who leads His flock.
 - v) Ephesians 1:22-23
 - (1) The church is also described as His body; Jesus is the head, and we are the members.
- b) All of the many ways the church is described in the Bible speak of community and togetherness, not individualism.
 - i) Romans 12:4-5
 - (1) The Bible teaches that we are members of one another.
- c) Jesus Christ and the church are not identical, but they are inseparable.
 - i) If we love God, then we will love His church.
 - ii) If we do not desire fellowship with the saints here on Earth, then we have no prospect of fellowship with the saints in Heaven.
 - iii) Love for Jesus and love for what Jesus loves are inseparable.
- d) 1 Corinthians 12:12-18
- e) 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

- a) All we know about one another is through the body.
 - i) It is through the body that we walk, talk, think, write, etc.
- b) The world knows the Lord Jesus Christ through His body, which is us - the church.
 - i) God is a spirit, and a spirit is invisible.
 - ii) My spirit, the real me that is inside my earthly house or body, is invisible.
 - iii) 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.
- c) The church is the visible part of the invisible Jesus, and Jesus is the invisible part of the visible church.
 - i) Together, we manifest the Lord Jesus Christ.
- d) Jesus Christ is the only one who has ever lived the Christian life.
 - i) If we are to live the Christian life, it will be Jesus living in and through us.

- ii) If Jesus is manifested in our homes, it will be because Jesus is manifesting Himself through us.
 - iii) 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
- a) The purpose of your body is to minister to you.
 - i) 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.
 - ii) The church is here to minister to the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (1) We are here to minister to Him.
 - iii) Your body does not have any plans of its own.
 - (1) Your body is to serve you; you do not serve your body.
 - iv) 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.
 - b) God has gifted each of us with different abilities, but the best ability is availability.
 - i) Are you available to the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - c) We are His hands and His feet; we are the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i) 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)
- a) The life, or motivating power, of the human body is the human spirit.
 - b) Genesis 2:7
 - i) God breathed into man the breath of life; and man became a living soul, animated by the spirit within him.
 - c) Luke 23:46
 - i) When Jesus died upon the cross, He gave up the spirit.
 - d) The motivating power of Jesus' body is the Holy Spirit.
 - i) The Holy Spirit is to be the life of the local church.
 - ii) 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.
 - (a) An organization does not necessarily have life.
 - iii) The church is not a corporation with Jesus as the president; it is a body with Jesus as the head.
 - e) 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - i) 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.

- (a) When we receive Christ as Lord, we are baptized into the body of Christ, and we are filled with the Spirit.
 - (b) 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.
 - ii) 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.
 - iii) 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)
 - a) There is no such thing as a Lone Ranger Christianity.
 - b) We are all here to show the life of the Lord Jesus Christ to our communities.
 - i) A healthy body is coordinated, organized.
 - ii) 1 Corinthians 14:40
 - c) As individuals, we are all very different; but there are three things we all have in common if we are truly born again.
 - i) 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.
 - (a) We need one another.
 - (b) 1 Corinthians 12:17-18
 - ii) 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) 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.
 - iii) 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.
 - (a) Loyalty to Jesus is loyalty to what Jesus loves.
 - (b) If we love Jesus, then we will love what Jesus loves.

6) CONCLUSION

- a) As believers, we need to discover our spiritual gift.
- b) We also need to accept ourselves.
 - i) We cannot be someone else, and someone else can never be us.
 - ii) God has uniquely gifted each of us, and we have a special place of service within the body of Christ.
- c) We need to give ourselves.
 - i) Every member of the body is both a receiver and a transmitter.
 - ii) We are here to receive from other members, and we're here to give to the other members.
- d) We need to be ourselves for Jesus.
 - i) Everybody is somebody in His body.
- e) We become part of this body by receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- g) 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.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31