

Slide #1

References and/or Scripture Quoted
December 9, 2018
“One Body Many Members”
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Community Christian Church, Durant OK

Index for Sermon Presentation Slides

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One Body Many Members

DECEMBER 9, 2018

Slide #3

Acts 21:17-26

Paul's Arrival at Jerusalem

¹⁷ When we arrived at Jerusalem, the brothers and sisters received us warmly. ¹⁸ The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James, and all the elders were present. ¹⁹ Paul greeted them and reported in detail what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

²⁰ When they heard this, they praised God. Then they said to Paul: "You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews have believed, and all of them are zealous for the law. ²¹ They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn away from Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or live according to our customs. ²² What shall we do? They will certainly hear that you have come, ²³ so do what we tell you. There are four men with us who have made a vow. ²⁴ Take these men, join in their purification rites and pay their expenses, so that they can have their heads shaved. Then everyone will know there is no truth in these reports about you, but that you yourself are living in obedience to the law. ²⁵ As for the Gentile believers, we have written to them our decision that they should abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality."

²⁶ The next day Paul took the men and purified himself along with them. Then he went to the temple to give notice of the date when the days of purification would end and the offering would be made for each of them.

Today's Texts

Ephesians 4

Romans 12

1 Corinthians 12

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Romans 12:3-13

Humble Service in the Body of Christ

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your^[a] faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead,^[b] do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Love in Action

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Footnotes:

- a. Romans 12:6 Or *the*
- b. Romans 12:8 Or *to provide for others*

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1 Corinthians 12

Concerning Spiritual Gifts

¹Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.

³Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.^[b] ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹²Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

¹³For we were all baptized by^[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²²On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it,²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues^[d]? Do all interpret? ³¹Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Love Is Indispensable

And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

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Ephesians 4:7-16

Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

⁷ But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸ This is why it^[a] says:

“When he ascended on high,
he took many captives
and gave gifts to his people.”^[b]

⁹ (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions^[c]? ¹⁰ He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Footnotes:

- a. Ephesians 4:8 Or *God*
- b. Ephesians 4:8 Psalm 68:18
- c. Ephesians 4:9 Or *the depths of the earth*

<https://careynieuwhof.com/8-reasons-most-churches-never-break-the-200-attendance-mark/>

New International Version (NIV)

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Slide #8



Slide #9

Father

Spirit

Jesus (Head)

Word (Apostles/
Prophets)



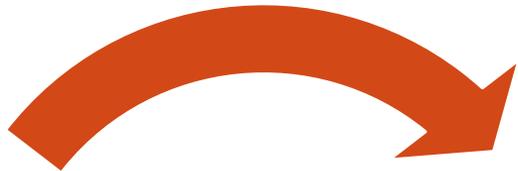
Pastor/
Teachers



Saints (Body)

Works
of
Service

Building
Up
Body



The Measure of Christ's Gift (Eph 4:7)

God gives gifts to Christians to further His Kingdom

- No insignificant people in the Kingdom

Every person has a job to do

- Church can't succeed without each part working

Every congregation has a job to do?

- Church (universal) needs each part to work

Role of Congregations

God gives gifts to Christians to further His Kingdom

- No insignificant congregations in the Kingdom

Every person has a job to do

- Congregation can't succeed without each part working

Pastor's job is to equip saints to do this work

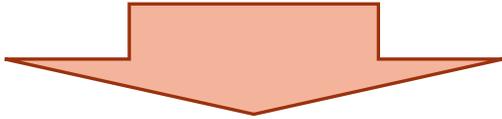
- Not to decide what that work should be
- Not to do it for them

Father

Spirit

Jesus (Head)

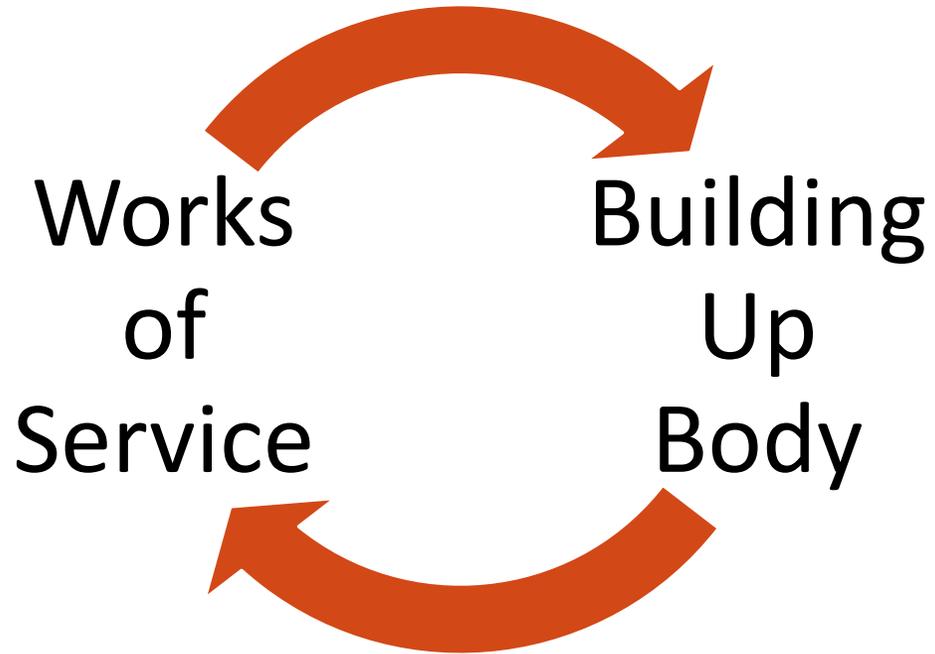
Word (Apostles/
Prophets)



Pastor/
Teachers



Saints (Body)



Works of Service

We've been uniquely gifted to DO something

- No insignificant congregations in the Kingdom

It's in our "DNA"

We MUST identify what that is

- Church (universal) needs each part to work

Every person has a job to do

- Congregation can't succeed without each part working

Gifts Are Not Fruits

Gifts are unique to individual/congregation

Fruits are expected from all:

- Loving God/loving others
- Making disciples
- Baptizing
- Teaching
- Supporting missions/evangelism
- Preaching Jesus crucified

How Does CCC Discover Our DNA?

Easier for individuals

- Read these passages

Less direction for congregations

We're going to get some outside help

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats



Next Week: Sunday Dec 16, 9:30 am

Brian Smith, DCC President, will lead congregation in discussion

Come prepared to discuss strengths and weaknesses

- **Mostly strengths:** Not intended to be “gripe session”

Goal is to understand God’s direction before calling new minister

What Can You Do?

Pray:

- Clear direction
- Unity in Spirit

Discuss:

- Bible studies
- Small groups

Commit:

- Decide to be a permanent part of CCC
- Decide to use your gift here
- Be here next week @ 9:30

Search Process

Establish Committee



Discover DNA

Advertise Position

Committee Process

