

## **FOCUS: “Finding My Place In The Body**

The local church is the hope of the world:  
“Healthy, Vibrant, Fully-Engage & Operating at FULL  
CAPACITY”

**ALL its members engaged & fully functioning carrying  
the gospel message to a dying world...**

**1 Corinthians 12:14-26** Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. **15** If the foot says, “I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand,” that does not make it any less a part of the body. **16** And if the ear says, “I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,” would that make it any less a part of the body? **17** If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? **18** But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. **19** How strange a body would be if it had only one part! **20** Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. **21** The eye can never say to the hand, “I don’t need you.” The head can’t say to the feet, “I don’t need you.” **22** In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. **23** And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, **24** while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that

extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. **25** This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. **26** If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad

- **Jesus said, “I will build MY CHURCH” ...Jesus is building HIS church how much are you invested in the building of what he is building (People & the outposts in your community)**

**Matthew 16: 13-15**” Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?” **16** Simon Peter answered, “**You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.**” **17** Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. **18** Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and **upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.**

- 1. We attend the corporate gathering because we follow Jesus example**

**Luke 4:16** So, He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And **as His custom was,** He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

**Encouragement**

**Edification** – to build up, strengthen, establish

## **2. The role of spiritual leadership**

**Ephesians 4:11-16** And He Himself gave some *to be* **apostles**, some **prophets**, some **evangelists**, and some **pastors** and **teachers**, <sup>12</sup> for the **equipping of the saints** for **the work of ministry**, **for the edifying of the body of Christ**, <sup>13</sup> **till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**; <sup>14</sup> **that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men**, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup> **but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—** <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which **every part does its share**, causes growth of the body for the **edifying of itself in love**.

## **3. Everyone doing THEIR part**

**1 Corinthians 12:7** A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

“Each member **utilizing their gifts for the common good.**”

## **How does your church benefit & get stronger because of your GIFTS**

- a. As we serve & care for ONE another (humanity) we find the most elusive of prize's

**Fulfillment, Purpose, Meaning, Satisfaction/Contentment**

- b. **Living and giving** to something bigger than ourselves...  
**self sacrifice**...we find our lives

## **4. For the sake of THE HOUSE**

**Ps 122:1** I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord.”

## **5. WE are NOT grasshoppers...**

**Numbers 13:30-33** Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.” <sup>31</sup> But the men who had gone

up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we.” <sup>32</sup> And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature. <sup>33</sup> There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and **we were like grasshoppers in our own sight,** and so we were in their sight.”

**Phil 4:13**

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.