

*"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." MATTHEW 28:18-20b*

For many, the Great Commission, instills a paralyzing fear and can have a polarizing effect in separating the 'evangelists' - who are zealous about sharing the Gospel - from those whom I'd like to call 'the rest of the Church'. I most certainly fall into 'the rest of the Church' group. I absolutely love hearing testimonies of huge altar calls and exciting and crazy stories about street evangelism! But... that's not me...I'm too shy...I don't know the Word as well as I should... that's' not "MY GIFT"! Sound familiar?

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul describes the Church as a body with many parts – all having a unique function. This beautifully describes how God uses each of us in the Body, by allowing us to operate with different gifts of the Spirit. However, it's easy to believe that we can only be used of God in specific ways and not in ANY way that He chooses. Our understanding of the Spiritual gifts can also be limited in how we see God using them in isolation. But we are THE BODY – which speaks of unity, co-ordination, and collaboration. Not solidarity, independence or isolation. When a human body runs, each of the body parts fulfil their specific function to achieve the united goal of running. I'm sure we all picture legs striding and arms swinging but, though we may give very little thought to the function of sight, if we tried to run with our eyes closed we'd quickly appreciate the role that they play. So, is it possible that as the Body of Christ, in fulfilling the Great Commission collectively, our functions may differ even though our goal is the same?

Pray and ask your Creator how He wants to advance His Kingdom and use **you** to fulfil the Great Commission in **your workplace**. Maybe you are the eye and you feel like your function doesn't contribute much. Don't compare yourself to the legs! We don't see as God does and we need to be Spirit-led and obedient to what He is asking **us** to do. Is God asking you to intercede for your colleagues, to start a prayer meeting, invite a colleague to Church, or maybe to share your faith with a friend? Be obedient to what God is asking you to do.

1 Corinthians 12 in The Message sums it up: *"If the body was all eye, how could it hear? If all ear, how could it smell? As it is, we see that God has carefully placed each part of the body right where he wanted it. But I also want you to think about how this keeps your significance from getting blown up into self-importance. For no matter how significant you are, it is only because of what you are a part of. An enormous eye or a gigantic hand wouldn't be a body, but a monster."*