

Body Life – 1 Corinthians 12

Civic organizations, political organizations, businesses, and even non-profit organizations are careful with their membership/employees. They desire highly qualified individuals to be a part of their organization. Unqualified individuals or those who hamper the effectiveness of the organization and its mission are most often dismissed.

That is how man thinks, how man organizes. God is different.

God keeps the weak. In fact, in the body of Christ (the church), the weak members are given prominence. The Apostle Paul writes that those who “seem to be weaker are necessary.” He says that the members “without honor” are given “abundant honor.” A member of the body of Christ should never have the attitude that another member is not needed.

The Christian widows in Jerusalem (Acts 6) were given “abundant honor” as others humbled themselves to give and serve them. They were not cast off because they had needs; they were considered important.

In God’s church the strong rally around those with needs. The ones with needs are given *abundant honor* as they are shown that they are important. Those who are able give the needed support or attention. They treat the weak one or the one in need as an equal: abundant honor.

If I smack my thumb with a hammer, I do not cut it off. My other hand holds it, my tear ducts activate, my other body members work harder to do the work that the injured thumb would ordinarily do. They also protect the injured thumb. The members of my body respond.

It may be necessary for the members of Christ to respond to many kinds of needs: financial, employment, parental, assistance in and around the home, or simple conversation. There might also be spiritual needs, even sin. Not everyone responds to every need, but those who are healthy and strong and have the opportunity respond.

We do not cast off members of Christ’s body because there are needs, or because of weakness. We give. We cry. We console. We assist. We teach. We look at each other as more important than ourselves. We are the body of Christ . . . and we give attention to those who are in need.

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