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Seeking Our Calling

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I Corinthians 12:12-31 ¹²The body is a unit, though it is composed of many parts. And although its parts are many, they all form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free, and we were all given one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴For the body does not consist of one part, but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a 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 arranged the members of the body, every one of them, according to His design. 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 do not need you." Nor can the head say to the feet, "I do not need you." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and the parts we consider less honorable, we treat with greater honor. And our unpresentable parts are treated with special modesty, ²⁴whereas our presentable parts have no such need. But God has composed the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵so that there should be no division in the body, but that its members should have mutual concern for one another. 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 of you is a member of it. ²⁸And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, and those with gifts of healing, helping, administration, and various 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? Do all interpret? ³¹But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way. (BSB)

Intro: Lets review what we have talked about regarding the body of Christ:

Literal-

Figurative-

Spiritual-

I. What can we learn from this passage?

A. The spiritual body of Christ is the **church**. V. 12-13

B. Every believer has a **role** to play in this body. V. 14-17

C. God has **designed** the church just as He wanted it to be. V. 18

D. We have a mutual **dependence** on one another. V. 19-26

E. If you have received Christ, you have the **Holy Spirit** and you are a part of the body. V. 27

F. Some gifts are considered greater and some are lesser, but they are all **necessary**. V. 28

G. We do not have the same gift and no one has all of them except for Jesus Christ. V. 29-30

H. There is an excellent way of using our gifts. V. 31

II. How can we apply these truths?

A. It is important that we surrender our preferences, prejudices, and traditions to the Word of God!

B. It is essential that all of us find our niche.

C. Finding our niche is a way of surrendering to God Himself. He has given us our gifts, we show our gratitude by putting them into practice.

D. We don't need to compare and compete for importance in our gifts.

E. Here are some suggestions for finding your niche in our local church.

*Go through the Connection Class.

*Go through our Leadership Class.

*Respond to God through repentance, worship, and submission to His word.

*Try volunteering in a position to see if it is a good fit.