

Pillars of Church Health – Church Membership

“Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.” 1 Cor 12:27 (HCSB)

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31	South Orlando Baptist Church
Topics: God’s Plan, Holy Spirit, Spiritual Gifts	May 4, 2014
Supplemental Text: See passages below	Bro. David Crowe

Concerning the Body of Christ, the church...

- 1) Sense your _____ with the church through the Holy Spirit. (12-13)
 - a. While Church membership is debated by some today, it cannot be denied through the emphasis of passages such as 1 Timothy 5:3-13 (The widows list); Acts 6:1-6 (Selection of Deacons); and 1 Corinthians 5 (Discipline by the members of the Corinthian church).

- 2) See that _____ belongs. (14-26)
 - a. You belong (14-20).
 - b. Everyone else belongs (21-26)

- 3) Serve _____ with your gift (27-30)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Apostles – “Sent ones” who helped plant and lead the churches in the New Testament era.b. Prophets – Ministers who would speak God’s message to the churches. Today it is preachers of the Bible.c. Teachers – In Ephesians 4:11 Paul associated the office of teacher with that of pastor. This office is not an office of special revelation, but an office of interpreting the special revelation of the Bible.d. Miracles – Casting out demons, raising the dead, and other miracles were seen in the early church. God still works miracles today – and the greatest miracle is when he saves a person from their sins.e. Gifts of Healing – Healing is a special type of gift where the sick or dying are brought back to health.f. Helping- “Helps” is an ability for service; in fact, the gift of ministry (“service”) in Rom. 12:7 is in the same category.g. Administrating – Can also be translated ‘government’, and it was used of the activity of a pilot who steered a vessel through dangerous waters.h. Tongues – To speak a foreign language for the sake of evangelism.i. Interpretation – To interpret a foreign language for the sake of evangelism. |
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You can personally take a spiritual gift test at <http://www.davidcrowe.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message.

1. What unifies all Christians? (12:13)
2. What makes Christians unified and dependent on one another? (12:13)
3. What lessons are there in seeing the church as a human body? (12:14-17)
4. Who arranged the parts of the body of Christ? (12:18)
5. Why shouldn't all Christians perform the same function? (12:19)
6. Why should members of the body of Christ not say to each other, "I don't need you"? (12:21-22)
7. Why should the less honorable parts be treated with special attention? (12:23)
8. Who appoints members of the body to their positions? Why is this significant? (12:28-29)
9. How well do you interact with other members in the body of Christ?
10. When have you felt like an important or insignificant part of the body?
11. What part do you serve in the body of Christ?
12. How are you able to help other Christians?
13. What has God appointed you to be in the body of Christ?
14. Why do people often assume that certain duties in the church are more important?
15. How can you treat the "weaker" members of your fellowship as indispensable?
16. What can you do to suffer with those in the church who suffer and rejoice with those who are honored?
17. What should we do when there is division among Christians in a local church?
18. What do you think are your personal responsibilities in the body of Christ?