

Bethel Bible Study: 18 July 2013 - Everyone Counts In The Church!

- A. Describe some of the feelings that occur when a person in a family or a Church feels like they do not have a meaningful place among the members:
- B. Do such feelings usually result in division?
- C. Read I Corinthians 12:12-17, 24b-27
1. What is the picture or analogy used by Paul to show us what the Church is like?
 2. According to this passage, how important is each person in the Church?
 3. How prominent or skilled must a person be in order to have a legitimately meaningful place in the Church?
- D. Read Matthew 18:19, 20
1. According to Jesus, what advantage is there to praying with someone--especially in a Church discipline situation (which is the context of this passage)?
 2. What do you think: does God listen to the prayers of an individual more than a group, or a group more than an individual?
___ Yes ___ No
 3. Offer your suggestions: Can you think of occasions when God would be seeking the prayer of each of the members of a group instead of the prayer of any one particular individual?

E. Read Romans 15:1-7, 13

1. According to this passage, what resources are available to the Christian to help do the work of ministering to others?

a) vs. 1

b) vs. 3

c) vs. 4

d) vs. 5

e) vs. 7

f) vs. 13

2. What are some of the things God has already equipped us to do in the Church, particularly for our neighbor?

3. According to verses 5-7, what are some of the things that God is looking for from the Church as a whole?

4. Does everyone in the Body need to participate in order for these commands to become a reality?

F. Is harmony in the Body of Christ something that is automatic?

If not, what must be done by each of us to preserve it?

1. Ephesians 4:3

2. Philippians 1:27, 2:2

G. In light of our study, list some of the reasons the Lord needs each of us to function as part of the Church today:

H. Let's pray concerning one thing you could do this week that would help you to feel more a part of the Body of Christ.