

The Family Reunion.... Helping Others part 2! In the Newer Testament there are three primary metaphors given when referring to the redeemed people of God. One is of a “body” where all parts, great and small, work together and must function well for the body to be whole.

The other of course is the family...we are sons and daughters of the Father, we are each others brothers and sisters.

And the other is ambassadors or His Kingdom representatives to this world.

In all of these models there is only one head, the Lord Jesus Christ, and one unifying, equipping and experiential Holy Spirit working in all the members of the body slash family and each family member is said to be of great value and worth.

*[2 Corinthians 5:17](#) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the **new** creation has come: The old has gone, the **new** is here!*

In Jesus we become a new person in the kingdom of God.

- **the amazing grace of God makes room for us to participate and become fully involved in his plans** Continuing Christ's mission to "seek and to save the lost". In other words... finding and restoring the other misfit...the ones who have not fit in anywhere. -- **God's grace is that great.**
- **Why does he want us to help bring in those not yet a part of the family of God? Because all families want their name to continue on through their children.... The Family of God is no different.**
- **The only difference is you come into the kingdom of God sometime after you are born...hence the term born again!**
- *1CO 12:27* Now you are the **body of Christ**, and each one of you is a part of it.
 - **Jesus loves His church so someone cannot love Jesus and not like his church the body!**

*****Paul writes clarifying this in Corinthians...**

1 Corinthians 12: ¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

- **So no Self condemnation...For that has no place in the body**

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If 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? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

- **So no Self exaltation....Pride has no place in a body! In fact it deforms the body...**

²¹ *The eye cannot say (forbidden) to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"*

²⁷ *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

- **This body is meant to minister to other hurting bodies!**
- **Each one is a part and performs a function for the body... living in this body as familyadding to this body that it may grow strong and larger!**
- **The smallest part has great power to effect a part of this world...**

Every Child of God has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit...Our gifts are assigned to us when we are born by the Holy Spirit into the family of God. though gifts may lie dormant

^{1 Cor 12:7} *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good*

- **One of the reasons we feel so inhibited about stepping out to use our gifts is we may not even know we have them as they are still unwrapped... and are only unwrapped as we use them...**
- **you don't receive the gift and then use it...it is unwrapped while it is used!**

No child of God should have an inferiority complex, Rather a keen awareness that he or she is a gifted child with an area of ministry that is designed to be used to meet another person's spiritual, psychological, physical, relational need as the opportunity presents itself...

- **And mastering gifts only comes through service over time!**
- **that is one of the reasons we hesitate in stepping out when the opportunity is presented because we think we should have a gift mastered before using it! Nonsense! we become more competent through use over time!**
- **God fills in where we lack...so even in our incompetence..we are competent enough in any situation!!**
- **ask the Spirit to quicken you to when you are in the position to help someone and be quick to obey, because given time we will talk ourselves out of obeying and unwrapping the gifts God wants to use through us to bless others..**

- So banish the thought that you and God are not enough to make a difference...
- It is one of the greatest lies the enemy uses against us...saying you are not powerful enough or influential enough, holy enough, or knowledgeable enough, or perfect enough to effect the life of someone eternally....
- In fact this is what Jesus says...

John 14:12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even **greater** things than these, because I am going to the Father. **How? God the Holy Spirit will be in you!!**

1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is **greater** than the one who is in the world.

Therefore...you count...you are part not only of His family...but been more intimately his body!!

Just the way we are...possessing only what we have ...because we are with Jesus

These principles are given in all four Gospels...in fact the only miracle recorded in all four Gospels...So the Holy Spirit wants us to get it!

to help us along I am going to give you Seven principles God gives us in one Narrative...that are universal tools in the opportunities we are given to help people! **Let's set the scene...** ...First the apostles...Jesus had sent the twelve on their first mission to go to cities to tell of him, without him...at least a few weeks alone ...John the Baptist had been martyred during this same time...they were tired, successful in the mission, yet disillusioned upon hearing of John...The people were still coming because Jesus he too was on his job also..teaching and healing one of the reasons we need each other...we get tired!!

we received two of them last week..i will quickly recap and then move on to the rest...

Understand this...ministry does not happen in sterile clean, environments...it happens in the nitty- gritty of doing life...on life's terms in life's circumstances
So we pick up the story...in Mark

Mark 6:30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." ³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³ But many

who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.

- so they make shore to eat and rest...and lo and behold the...people again

Mark 6:34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, **he had compassion on them**, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

- they were lost...and they had an obvious need....he saw it and had compassion for them...empathy he was concerned for their state of being...
- that is the key to being effective in the harvest is to experience a love for the Harvest... you cannot effectively help people you condemn ... fear, despise or look down upon..... or think your better than...
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- So what does compassion for people look like...and feel like?...it looks impossible and feels overwhelming... not to mention we often feel inadequate to help or even know how to help ...
- that is why we like to leave it to the so called professionals!!! the truth is were all amateurs...some just exercise their faith!

So Jesus addresses this....the apostles were hungry, and knew the people were also...send them away is their solution so we can eat...

35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. 36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

- This has been no planned gathering. It has been spontaneous, spur of the moment. The crowds have given no thought to provisions or distance. ...
- scattered sheep...no shepherd!...No-body was going to starve to death...it was not an emergency... the people came ill prepared to be there all day...no food probably little water...
- The disciples had already figured out the practical solution...send them home...
 - The disciples saw the need...and had their own solution...send them away...and asked Jesus to help them do this...
- Now they are miles from home, their stomachs beginning to send hunger signals, and the sun is beginning to go down.
- What's more, there are about five thousand men, "besides women and children" we will be told. Surely it is time to close, the disciples say.
- Jesus had a different plan...he usually does...

MK 6:37 But he answered, "You give them something to eat."

- **Jesus' reply is startling! "You give them something to eat."**
- **Why? _Jesus ... intentionally presented a need an opportunity where their own resources are woefully inadequate.....which means he is also working something into their lives as well....**
- **so they inform Jesus of this reality...**

37b.... They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

- **Jesus ... intentionally worked an opportunity into their lives which would overwhelm their abilities to meet it....**
- **which means he is also working something into their lives as well....**

This is what we need to know....When the Lord sets up a situation of need...he already has a solution to that need...

Jesus asked the apostles

MK 6:38 "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five--and two fish." (John actually reports they got the fish and loaves from a kid who was smart enough to bring lunch) MK 6:39 Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.

*****So Right here we have the first three principles...they all have to do with the and preparation and attitude of the helper...**

- 1. Search out available resources... What do you have?...what is available to you?...what did you find out?**
- 2. Bring what you have to Jesus...**
- 3. Calm down...Stay composed... God is not a God of confusion and panic...neither should you be...and be a calming influence to those you are helping.**

*⁴¹ Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. **These are the Do Principles!***

- 4. Pray with Thanksgiving and you might need help...you are not a lone ranger! sometimes you alone and sometimes with others...be wise**
- 5. Serve with what you possess... Let God deal with the things you have not, nor have control over...we must learn to depend on his power....not on what we bring Him**

Mark 6:42 They all ate and were satisfied,⁴³ and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish.

The results are up to God

6. God will make what you possess be enough!they all ate and were satisfied!
7. You will receive back greater than what you gave!...wisdom , faith, joy power, understanding, more opportunities and fulfillment..

Final thought ⁴⁴ *The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.*

- Feeding 5K plus was not the real miracle...they will all need to eat within hours...the number of the people doesn't really matter ...in fact were not told the number until the end...so that is not the point!
- Well what is the point? helping the disciples realize that even when they are completely overwhelmed and are inadequate to meet the needs of people... they will still be productive if they use what they have, ask God and are willing to serve... little is much when you and Jesus work together!
- that is the real lesson....may we learn and apply this in our day to day life of living and ministering in the Harvest Field
- Than you invite them here ! to learn and grow...

end **Hey Tim..please recheck the slides thank you**

How to Help Hurting People

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3. Calm down...Stay composed... God is not a God of confusion and panic...neither should you be...and be a calming influence to those you are helping.
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6. God will make what you do possess be enough!they all ate and were satisfied!
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