



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Roamin' In Romans Romans Chapter 12

Message preached on Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Members Functioning in the Body

- 4** For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

We start out in Romans 12 having revealed to us (and the Roman church) a FOOLPROOF plan for success, as believers.

- 1.) Lay down our flesh.
- 2.) Don't conform to the world.
- 3.) Be transformed
- 4.) Don't think of yourself too highly (humility)
- 5.) It all takes faith.

REMEMBER: It all takes faith.

Which means if what you are doing isn't taking faith...perhaps you are not doing what you think you are doing!

ONE KEY phrase we can't miss is in verse 2, where it tells us this is all about living out the WILL OF GOD in our lives...perfect will of God.

QUESTION: Why is this so important?

ANSWER: Because everything that is coming in chapter 12 is about living out the WILL OF GOD.

YES, the five things we have already listed...but everything that is coming up too.

It is about THINKING a new way! Living a new way!

The Body of Christ

We live in a generation where people are so much more concerned with THEIR OWN WAYS of thinking and doing things.

The way we FEEL ABOUT THINGS or VIEW THINGS supersedes everything else. NO!

Do you want to live out the will of God in your life?

You will have to do it with others! With the body of Christ.

A few definitions:

"Members" – body parts

"Body" – the whole thing

"Office" – purpose or function

OBVIOUSLY this connects itself to verse 3 where Paul tells us to not think of ourselves MORE HIGHLY than we ought. **WHY?** Because we are all a part of the same body! Each part of the body has an essential function for the body.

Whatever is NOT GETTING done in the Body...will affect the whole body.

We learn the most of this illustration from Paul's writing in 1 Corinthians 12.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

(NLT) "...So it is with the body of Christ."

Romans 12:5 – "...one body IN CHRIST..."

Ephesians 5:30 – "And we are members of his body."

UNDERSTAND: We are NOT the pastor's body...we are not a specific televangelist's body...we are the body of Christ.

Ephesians 5:23 – "...Christ is the head of the church..."

THEREFORE: If we are of HIS BODY...HE is the head...which means He controls all the parts of the body...we are not our own (1 Corinthians 6:19).

13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

14 For the body is not one member, but many.

Ephesians 4:25 – "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: **for we are members one of another.**"

Because we are ALL a part of Christ's Body...then we are connected to each other.

Ephesians 5:29 – "For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:"

WHAT A PICTURE: When one part of your body hurts...your whole body hurts. You begin favoring parts of your body...making up for them with other parts of your body.

BELOVED: The enemy LOVES to get us SELF-FOCUSED...where we are only concerned with OUR BODIES...but forget about HIS BODY, in which He placed you (vs. 18).

I am telling YOU...if you are not as interested in HIS BODY as you are in your own ("I'm tired", "I don't feel well", "I am not into it") then **you will NOT, ABSOLUTELY NOT, achieve God's perfect will for your life!**

ILLUSTRATION: If an enemies ARROW is flying towards your EYE, it doesn't mean your LEGS don't SHOW UP and move you out of the way. Just because a ball comes flying towards your stomach, it doesn't mean your ARMS don't show up to knock it away.

We must FILL our position in the Body of Christ.

15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?

18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

NOTE: God has given you abilities, gifting and functions to take care of HIS BODY.

BELOVED: What gift, ability or function do you possess that others don't have? What interests do you have that others don't have?

UNDERSTAND: Those have been given to you to do your part IN THE BODY OF CHRIST...it is not by accident you have them.

THINK ABOUT IT: God didn't give the HAND the ability to GRIP...

- * ...so it doesn't do it (that is a wounded hand).
- * ...so it can hear better or walk better.

19 And if they were all one member, where were the body?

20 But now are they many members, yet but one body.

I LOVE THIS PORTION: The church is a unified WHOLE BODY, yet we are all distinct within that body. In the body there is UNITY, but not UNIFORMITY.

We all are individuals with different abilities, likes, etc.

Yet, we are ONE so we can INCREASE HIS KINGDOM...be fulfilled in our own lives.

Vs. 27 – “Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular (different, own abilities).

21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked:

25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and *members in particular*.

Vs. 26 is awesome! We fight together! We win together!

PHRASE: “All for ONE and One for all!”

PHRASE: “We're all in this together!”

We are better together!

Numbers 32

As the children of Israel were getting ready to cross the Jordan and take the land.

The tribes of REUBEN and GAD said, “Hey, this side of the Jordan is nice. Let us just set up over here and set up our land here (they had a lot of stuff).

MOSES got upset and it literally says that **God's anger was kindled** (vs. 10). God was ticked.

I've brought you all this far...together and you are going to ditch the others when they are fighting to move into their lands?

They finally explained...we just like this land...we will settle our areas and then go with the other tribes and fight for them. ***We will not RELAX until there are settled.***

Numbers 32:20-23 (NLT)

20 Then Moses said, “If you keep your word and arm yourselves for the LORD's battles,

21 and if your troops cross the Jordan and keep fighting until the LORD has driven out his enemies,

22 then you may return when the LORD has conquered the land. You will have fulfilled your duty to the LORD and to the rest of the people of Israel. And the land on the east side of the Jordan will be your property from the LORD.

23 But if you fail to keep your word, then you will have sinned against the LORD, and you may be sure that your sin will find you out.

We must do what we do...to fulfill the body...and the will of God for lives.

FINAL POINT: Here is the final point I want to make in these two verses: ***It takes faith!***
Romans 12:3 – God has given to each of us a measure of faith.

QUESTION: Why has He given us this measure of faith?

BECAUSE the JUST SHALL LIVE by FAITH.

Take away FAITH and you will never do what God has told you to do...any of it.

YOU KNOW WHAT that means? Everything God tells you to do, WILL TAKE FAITH.

Everything God has told us to do from verse 1 to verse 21 will take faith.

If it doesn't take faith...you are doing it wrong.

THEREFORE: Whatever you do IN THE BODY of Christ must go beyond your own physical abilities and want to's...it must take faith.

- * Are you mowing the lawn? It will take faith to do it.
- * Are you cleaning the toilets? It will take faith to do it.
- * Are you a part of building maintenance? It will take faith.
- * Preaching? Faith.
- * Music? Faith.
- * Teaching kids? Faith.

We could go on and on...what you are doing doesn't stop when you move past your comfort zone or your energy level. It will always take faith.