

## **Meditations on the Message**

Sunday: April 10, 2016. *Serve One Another*

Text: **1 Corinthians 12**

Re-read the above text and consider the following thoughts and questions:

1. The main points from **1 Corinthians 12** given in Sunday's message are as follows:

### **1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

There is one Spirit, one Lord, one God, Who gives a great variety of gifts, according to His will, for the common good, to those who call Jesus LORD.

- a. You don't determine what gift you have, God does.
- b. The gift isn't for you, it's for others (it's for the common good).
- c. Gifts have to do with serving others, not promoting yourself.

### **1 Corinthians 12:12-26**

There is one body made up of a variety of parts with diverse functions. Each member is essential to the function of the body. There members make one body. There are, therefore, no non-essential parts.

- d. You don't determine what body part you are, God does.
- e. Your function isn't for you, it's for others.
- f. Body functions have to do with serving others, not promoting yourself.

2. Thoughts/Questions:

- a. What are you contributing to the body for its flourishing? What are you receiving from the body for your flourishing?  
How does this giving-and-receiving from God and the body make up your Christian experience?

- b. What happens when one body part thinks it is only a provider and not also an interdependent recipient?  
What happens when one body part thinks it isn't essential and seeks to remove itself from the body?

- c. Discovering your gifts (determining your body function) involves engagement with others around you. What barriers exist to pursuing those relationships? How are those barriers overcome for the common good?

3. Humility is required to (a) receive from God, (b) give what you have received to others, (c) and receive from others what they have received from God. What does it mean to you that as a body member you are both needy and necessary? ...incomplete but fulfilled in serving others?
4. You can't do Christianity independently. You can't do Christianity as a provider only (from a position of superiority). How does this play out in your attitude and activity concerning the Church?