

Crazy Love

Growing CLOSER—*Cultivating a Life of Humble Service!*

October 18, 2009

John 13, Rom. 12, I Cor. 12, Eph. 4

Introduction—The common human struggle with **PRIDE**.

How does my view of myself and those around me affect my willingness to serve?

The common theme of HUMILITY in the BIG 3 “Body”-life passages: Rom. 12 ~ I Cor. 12 ~ Eph. 4

- **Romans 12:3**—The danger of thinking too _____ of ourselves.
- **I Corinthians 12:20-21, 25**—The danger of thinking to _____ of each other.
- **Ephesians 4:2**—Our worthy walk is to be marked by _____.

Embracing Jesus’ *Posture* of Humility—Mark 10:45 & John 13:1-17

Mk. 10:45—The King of Glory came to serve!! Wow!

John 13:1-17—The Crazy Love of God Revealed in Humble Service

- Jesus loved them “to the end” (v.1)
 - *Temporal*—to the end of His life...unfailing love!
 - *Adverbial*—to the uttermost...unexpected love!
- Though Jesus had reason to think “highly of himself” (v.3), He humbly chose to value His disciples more. *This is what Crazy Love does!*
- The disciples wouldn’t have thought to wash each other’s feet, so the idea of Jesus washing theirs was a stunning act of self-emptying love. *Crazy!*
- If Jesus—their Lord and Teacher—was willing to humbly serve them...they should be eager to do the same for one another. (vv.13-14)
- Jesus was offering an “example”—a pattern that they should be willing to trace their lives around. (v.15) *The Crazy love of God...is our vocation!*
- The promise is BLESSING...if we’re willing to exhibit this Crazy Love with one another. (v.17)

Embracing the *Practice* of Humbly Serving One Another

Romans 12:3-8

- 1- **UNITY**—We are 1 Body and so we are *that* intimately connected to one another.
- 2- **DIVERSITY**—We have different gifts according to God’s choosing—
“grace given to us” (v.6)
- 3- **PURPOSE**—And our gifts are not given *to us for us*, but for one another’s blessing!

** Faithful in Prophecy, Service, Teaching, Exhorting, Generous giving, Passionate leadership, Cheerful compassion.*

I Corinthians 12:4-31

- 1- **DIVERSITY**—Variety of gifts, service, activities (vv.4-6)
- 2- **UNITY**—But same Spirit, Lord, and God empowering them all in everyone. (vv.4-6)
- 3- **PURPOSE**—By the Spirit, each of our gifts is intended for the “common good” (v.7)

** Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discernment, Tongues, Interpretation of tongues*

- 4- UNITY/DIVERSITY—"Same" Spirit apports to "each one individually" as He wills. (v.11, see also v.18)
- 5- There are no "unimportant gifts" (vv.15-16), the Body flourishes when all are finding expression
- 6- UNITY/DIVERSITY—We are the Body of Christ and individually members of it!

** Apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, healing, helping, administration, tongues*

Ephesians 4:1-16

- 1- UNITY—Be eager to maintain the "unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peace. (v.3)
- 2- DIVERSITY—But grace was given to "each one of us" (v.7)
- 3- PURPOSE—The goal is that the saints are "equipped for the work of ministry/service" so that Body is "built up" (maturity!) (v.12)

** When each part is working properly...the Body Grows and is built up in Love! (v.16)*

Reflection Questions

Where am I in my Christian Journey with Pride and cultivating a Heart of Humility?

Have/Am I DISCOVERING the gifts that the Spirit has given me for the benefit of Hope Church?

Am I intentionally DEVELOPING these Spiritual gifts so that I can be a greater blessing to Hope Church?

Where am I DEPLOYING these gifts, with humility, within Hope Church?

Discover your ROLE and DIVE IN!