

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR PETER ONG

### THE BLESSING OF BELONGING

TEXT: I COR 12:12-27, ACTS 2:37-47

#### INTRODUCTION:

We can claim to know Jesus, acknowledge Him as Savior and Lord and yet be unaware or even ignorant of the blessing of belonging to Him (being a part of His Body).

#### WE NEED TO NOTE FOREMOST:

- What Jesus said about His church. He said I will build My church and the gates of hell cannot prevail against it. His church will always be victorious and overcome evil. (MT 16:18)
- Paul teaches the church is made up of believers in Christ who is His Body. (COL 1:24 & EPH 5:27-30)

#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BEING A PART OF HIS BODY:

The passage in I COR 12:12-27 is an interesting but true description of every born again believer in Christ.

- Each believer is important, necessary, and definitely **not rejected!** (vv14-17)
- Each believer is **uniquely purposed!** Set by God just as He pleased. (vv18-24)
- Each believer can show **same care** to each other! (v25)

#### THE BELONGING AND THE BLESSING:

The book of ACTS tells of the first moments of the birth of the church. It was a living and growing body, full of God's Spirit working in believers who chose to belong together in Jesus Christ. (ACTS 2:37-47)

What did these believers do that was so impacting to themselves and those who were near to them?

- 1) They were **baptized in the name of Jesus Christ**, besides repentance. (ACTS 2:38,41) Not only claiming Jesus is yours and you are His but taking the vital step to affirm your seriousness and sincerity of belonging – an act of obedience out of love!
- 2) They **continued steadfastly** in ... spiritual disciplines through practical nourishment. (ACTS 2:42,43) The result was tremendous as there were spiritual breakthroughs and victories.
- 3) They were **in one accord, together** they worshipped, believed, served, and ministered and God blessed them! (ACTS 2:44-47) There was overflowing of joy because of the Holy Spirit's fullness in the Body of Christ.

#### CONCLUSION:

Belonging to the Body of Christ is not just physical activity but a sincere and concerted willingness of every believer to appropriate the availability and awesome power of the Holy Spirit for His church (Body) to be built!

What a blessing to belong to the greatest Body in this world!