

# **Embrace Your Place**

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (NLT)

But our bodies have many parts, and <u>God has put each part just where</u> he wants it. **1 Corinthians 12:18 (NLT)** 

### How do we Embrace Our Place in His house?

#### 1. We have to embrace who we are.

"For you are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus, to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." **Ephesians 2:10** 

### 2. We have to embrace the gifts we have.

<u>A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other</u>... It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. **1 Corinthians 12:7,11 (NLT)** 

## How do we know what Spiritual gifts we have?

- Spiritual gifts tests
- Affirmation from other Christ followers
- Asking God (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4)

## 3. We have to embrace His power.

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Romans 8:11 (NLT)

...'Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate. I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.' "But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.' "Then he ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. Matthew 25:24-29 (NLT)