



05-27-2018

I Belong To The Body: Privilege, People, And Servitude

- 1) The Believers Were Part Of A Local Community.
- 2) Where God's People Are Living Together In Unity, The Lord Commands His Blessing.

Ephesians 2:19 - ...You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family.

1 Corinthians 12:27 - ...All of you together are the one body of Christ, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it.

Mark 9:33-35 - After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you discussing out on the road?"³⁴ But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest.³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him, and said, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else."

- **Greatness Is Determined By Servanthood**

Ephesians 3:7 - By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving...

- **Real Joy Means Giving Up Our Rights And Preferences And Serving Others**

Philippians 2:5-8 - You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

1. Gave Up Privileges.
2. Took The Position Of A Slave.
3. Became Obedient To God.
4. Died To Himself.

MOVING FROM CRITICAL TO CRUCIAL

Ephesians 5:22, 25 - *wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord...²⁵ husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church...*

Ephesians 5:32 - *This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.*

Ephesians 6:1, 4 - *Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do...*

⁴ *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.*

- **Our Commitment Is To Love The Bride With An Unwavering Love**

1 Corinthians 12:22-25 - *In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. ²³ 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, ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other.*