

## ***Broken...but still working #2***

### ***Unity and Diversity in the Body***

The direction that I want to focus on is the ***spiritual characteristic*** of the church that is ***a living body***, for ***it is the body of Christ***.

**What is the church?**

It is **more than a building, stone, wood, and plaster.**

- It is ***a living*** and ***breathing*** body.
- It is **not a dead or sterile body**
- Rather it is ***the body of Jesus Christ***.

### **1 Corinthians 12:12-13 – NKJV - Unity and Diversity in One Body**

<sup>12</sup> For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. <sup>13</sup> ***For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.***

Tell your neighbor... **I MAY BE BROKEN...BUT I AM STILL WORKING!**

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**This morning this scripture reminds me of us!**

- We are ***all different***...
- Yet have so ***much in common***
- IF we just look beside ***our differences***.
- ***The same*** Holy Spirit fills each life!!!

It also ***reminded me*** of a box of “Crayons”.

**What do you see in a box of Crayons?**

- Many ***colors***
- Many ***sizes***
- Many ***brands***
- But ***ONE purpose***

Likewise ...in the context of our scripture, ***the Bible teaches us:***

- That we have many parts... but we are still one body
- Jews and Gentiles
- African American and Caucasian
- Big and little
- Japanese and Chinese
- Male and Female
- Old and Young
- Fat and Skinny... ***well....you get it***
- ***We are all different... but we are ALL the same***

### **Genesis 1:27 - NKJV**

27 So God created man **in His** own **image**; **in** the **image** of God He created him; male and female He created them.

- **CEV** - **So God created humans to be like himself**; he made men and women.

### **We were created in GOD's image!**

- We should **look** like him - **Talk** like him - **Act** like him - **Be** like him!
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### **Moses was also called by God to bring the Children of Israel out of Egypt**

- Yet **resistance** came from Pharaoh
- He would **not allow** them to be released
- **God had him** to continue to curse Egypt with plagues
- **Moses** becomes **intimidated** and ....
- **God** **has to remind him of his PURPOSE**

### **We are all created by God**

- We all **look like God**... Created after **His image**
  - We all **have a voice by God**
  - We all have **a destiny**...
  - **SO.... What is YOUR purpose????????????????**
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Someone here today has come **to find their purpose**!

- Your purpose may not be your job
- Your house/ car/ clothes/ hair
- Your purpose is what DRIVES you...NOT what you drive
- Your purpose makes you want to get up in the morning
- If you **don't** want to get up... you don't know your PURPOSE YET!
- But God was about to SHOW Moses his...

### **Exodus 9:16 - NKJV**

<sup>16</sup> But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.

- Moses was born into a land where all the babies were killed
- Moses had to be hidden in order to stay alive
- Moses had to be adopted out of his family
- Moses had to be shifted to the Palace
- Moses had to murder someone to flee for his life
- Moses had to hide out on the backside of the desert
- Moses had to stand before Pharaoh and be rejected ...many times...

**NOW ... God says I HAVE RAISED YOU UP FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE!!**

- That I might show you my POWER
- And that my name might be proclaimed on the earth

### **Romans 8:28 - NKJV**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Remember I told you that I was inspired by crayons this week?

- They are ALL different ... no two colors are the same
- Yet... they ALL have the same purpose!
- We are not to fight each other
- We are not to get under each others skin
- We are here to help - - - establish each others purpose!!!!!!

**What if we all worked together! - IF everyone did their part!**

- What would THIS house look like?

### **Ephesians 4:11-13 - NIV**

<sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the ***apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,***

<sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up – (***So they can find their purpose***)

<sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. – (***united*** by our faith - Then we will be ***mature*** - we will be ***completely*** like him!)

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There is ***something about coloring!*** - ***Everyone loves to do it.***

- You will catch the baby in high chair being ***entertained by a crayon*** and a coloring book
- An 80 year old grandpa, will be content with a ***crayon and coloring book***

***No two paintings are alike...***

No two finger prints

No two pupils ... ***they are ALL different...*** But ...

***The fingers*** all are ***made to do the SAME thing***

***The Eyes*** are different...but ***ALL are made to do the SAME thing...***

**This reminds me of a story:**

**Two little girls** were sitting at the table coloring

- While one child was coloring
- And the other was crying because she didn't have a crayon to color with
- All the sudden the little girl coloring broke out into tear's
- **What happened** the Father asked
- **I broke my crayon**
- The Daddy smiled and said...
- ***Now that it has been broken*** you can share....

***Someone hear me...***

***You have nothing to share... until you have been broken!***

- Now both girls were happy because...they both had a crayon
- It was only half because **it had been broken**
- But ***because it was broken... there was something to share...***

**Watch this.... She had nothing to share until her crayon was broken...**

**Broken crayons still color!!!!**

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**CLOSE: Psalm 34:17-18 - NKJV**

<sup>17</sup> *The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles.*

<sup>18</sup> ***The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart,*** And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

**Psalm 34:17-18 - CEV**

<sup>17</sup> When his people pray for help, **he listens and rescues** them from their troubles.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is there **to rescue all who are discouraged** and have **given up hope**.

***You have nothing to share until you are broken***

***And even broken crayons ...still COLOR!***

***GO out there and COLOR your purpose!***

**Let the Word of God ring out in its power and authority.**

- **Let the spirit of God move**
- **Allow it** to do its convicting and drawing work.
- Let us hold our head up high and stand up straight
- Let the world know that **we are the Church!**
- **We are not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**PRAISE TEAM**