

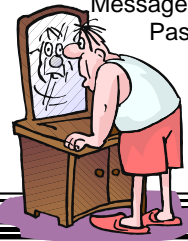
Text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31  
Topic: Ministry. Attitude.  
Study: First Corinthians  
Week: 50  
Series: 4 of 4

**Focal Point Radio Ministries**  
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Message # 04-06  
Pastor Mike

part 4

# Plugged In

*Keeping Myself in Perspective as I Serve God's People*



**On Days You Feel \_\_\_\_\_**



(vv.12-19)

• **Remember** \_\_\_\_\_

• **Remember** \_\_\_\_\_

**On Days You Feel \_\_\_\_\_**



(vv.20-31)

• **Affirm** \_\_\_\_\_

• **Get** \_\_\_\_\_

## *1 Corinthians 12:12-31*

<sup>12</sup> The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. <sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup> while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way. (NIV)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.*

1. Have you thoughtfully responded to last week's sermon? Make a thorough list of the opportunities which God has graciously afforded you to love and serve his bride at our church.

Identify to what degree those ministries tend to be "behind the scenes" and to what degree they tend to be done "in view of others"

2. How often do you get "compliments" and/or "criticisms" for the ministries you do? How do you normally respond to each type of reaction?

3. Do you think you tend to overestimate or underestimate the significance of your contribution?

In what ways do you demean or downplay your contribution to the body of Christ? What are the dangers of this?

What are some of the dangers of pride?

4. List the names of three people in the body of Christ who you know faithfully serve God's people but who are either under appreciated or generally go undetected. What will you do this week to affirm, thank and encourage those three people?

*Read through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.*

**Sunday**

*Lev. 17-18 & Prov. 9*

**Monday**

*Lev. 19-20 & Prov. 10*

**Tuesday**

*Lev. 21-22 & Prov. 11*

**Wednesday**

*Lev. 23-24 & Prov. 12*

**Thursday**

*Lev. 25-27 & Prov. 13*

**Friday**

*Num. 1-2 & Prov. 14*

**Saturday**

*Num. 3-4 & Prov. 15*

*Here are some resources which may help you understand and implement the truths presented in this week's sermon.*

Adams, Jay. **From Forgiven to Forgiving**. Calvary Press, 1997.  
Fabarez, Mike. **People Tools: Becoming a Useful Tool in the Lives of God's People**. Tapes/CD: 0205—0208.  
Finzel, Hans. **The Top Ten Mistakes Leaders Make**. Victor Books, 1994.  
Getz, Gene. **The Measure of a Church**. Gospel Light, 2002.  
Gorman, Julie. **Community That Is Christian**. Victor Books, 1993.  
Lloyd-Jones, D. Martyn. **Ephesians 4:1-16. An Exposition on Christian Unity**. Baker Books, 1998.  
Murray, Andrew. **Humility: The Journey Toward Holiness**. Bethany House, 2001.  
Sande, Ken. **The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflicts**. Baker Books, 1997.  
Sanders, Oswald. **Spiritual Leadership**. Moody Press, 1980.  
Sproul, R. C. **Getting the Gospel Right: The Tie That Binds Evangelicals Together**. Baker Books, 1999.  
Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Reprint. Word, 2002.  
Whitney, Donald. **Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church: Participating Fully in the Body of Christ**. Moody, 1996.