



Series:

WELCOME TO "CHURCH"

Title:

The Body of Christ where Everybody is
a "Somebody!"

Preacher:

Brian Townsend

Notes

Scriptures to reflect on:

"²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way."

(Ephesians 1:22-23 NIV)

"¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ 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 stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ 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? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ 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!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ 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, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

(I Corinthians 12:12-27)

Sermon review:

Jesus is "physically" present in the world today in the form of His church/ekklesia. We are His body which is meant to fill the world with His fullness. The only way His Body can adequately fill the world is if the body parts in His Body are all operating properly and in union under His headship. You are a part in the Body. The Body needs you. Everybody is a "somebody" in the Body of Christ because every part is intended to play a part. You have been uniquely SHAPED to help the Body of Christ fill the world with the fullness of Jesus.

- Spiritual Gift-
- Heart/Passion-
- Abilities-
- Personality-
- Experiences-



Conversation Starters

(There are 2 “take home” packets for you to pick up before you leave- A Spiritual Gifts Inventory and a fun Personality Inventory. If you are a married couple you are encouraged to share so that you’ll be more willing to share your answers with each other!)

1. What did you learn about yourself when taking the inventories?
2. Think about the acrostic, SHAPE. Answer the following...
 - My primary Spiritual gifts were...
 - I am passionate about... (what makes your Hear feel alive? If money were no object, what would you do with your life?)
 - Abilities? What have others told you that you were good at?
 - Personality? Are you an introvert or extrovert?
Look back over the personality inventory... what kind of “animal” are you?
What kind of people do you like to be around?
 - Experiences? What experiences in your life have most shaped you?
3. Do you feel like your life is making a difference in the world? Why or why not?
4. Do you feel like your passions, abilities, experiences and gifts are being utilized at SVCC? If not, what would you change so that you felt you were important?

Take some time this week to share your answers with your circle.