**Gifted to Minister – Members of one another**

*So we who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another Rom. 12:5*

***Word pictures for the church***

1. **The church is God’s field – 1 Cor 3:5 -9**

*For we are God’s fellow workers, you are God’s field – Lit. cultivated land*

1. **The church is God’s building – 1 Cor. 3:9 - 11**

*You are God’s building*

1. **The church is the Body of Christ – 1 Cor. 12: 14 -26**

*For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ 1 Cor. 12:12*

*For the body is not one member, but many 1 Cor. 12:14*

*But now God has placed the members, each one of them in the body, just as He desired*

 *1 Cor. 12:18*

 *But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which*

 *lacked, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the*

 *same care for one another.*

*Believers are members of one another – now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it – 1 Cor. 12:27*

**Believers are members with one another connected like the parts of a body**

1. **Every member has different functions – Rom. 12:4**

*For just as we have many members in one body, and all the members do not have the same function*

1. **Every believer is connected to every other believer – Rom. 12:5**

*So we who are many, are one body in Christ and individually members of one another*

1. **All believers are interdependent on every other believer**
2. **All believers must recognize their dependence on every other believer – humility**

*Do think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you Rom. 12:3*

Eph. 4:2 – *be completely humble and gentle, be patient bearing with one another*

1. **Every believer must contribute to the unity of the body of Christ**

1 Cor. 1:10 – *I appeal to you brothers, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought*

Eph. 4:3 – *make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace*

Rom. 14:9 – *let us make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification*

**Things to remember & do**

1. **We are one in the Spirit – we are one in the Lord**
2. **Humble yourself in the sight of God – think of every other person as more important than you**
3. **Put real effort into living with others in the church in ways that lead to peace and mutual growth.**
4. **Ask yourself how can use my spiritual gifts to help others grow in Christ?**

**Take my life and let it be – Francis Havergal**

1 Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.