

Joins and Ligaments

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My thoughts are aimed to: what a church is without joints and ligaments, and what a church is with joints and ligaments.

The contrast is amazing.

Without joints and ligaments each one is free to walk according to their own criteria. No one really receives the help that they need for their entire spiritual life and primarily to understand the Word of God. Each one understands within their own judgment and limitations.

An effective ministry consists of constantly consulting, of sharing, of hearing the reasons, of explaining, of co-existing, and of relating to another life. A life with everything that it brings: needs, virtues and abilities, and with all its spiritual force if it joins to another. To another one it is endowed with the same attributes, but with different angles, and with different depths. What one understands the other does not understand and when sharing they make with that the river of life, grace, wisdom and understanding.

All of this is possible through two lives that join and flow together.

And like Pascal's theory: What can we do so that the tanks that have different levels end up with the same levels? We place a pipe, well below, connecting all the tanks. Then the water will search for its level in each one.

Whoever doesn't have receives, and whoever has gives, and all become even. Why? Because it has a connection.

This connection means having a relationship and to be in fellowship together. Its having a constant exchange. Each one sharing with the other on what is lacking. They are lives that flow together, lives that are connected by the love of God.

A vital and celestial current flows through the members of our body. The difference between the tanks and our lives is that God doesn't want to level each one of us halfway, or by a little, but he does want to fill up all of the cups.

Pascal speaks about a connection, the theory that shows us to be essential for connection: "the source is Christ". What flows in us is Him and in His fullness He fills us all. He gives us grace after grace.

No one is complete in himself. We are all vulnerable. We are all good in some aspects and limited in others. We have a lot of virtues and flaws. Correctness and errors. And I am not

completely capable to understand everything I have.

I need to look at myself through my brother. I need to share with him the grace that I have and the grace that he has. The knowledge that I have with the knowledge that he has. The gifts that God has granted me and the gifts that God has granted him.

The fundamental purpose is the enrichment, and the development of maturity. I did not say that we won't develop if we are separate, but I am saying that when we fellowship one member with the other, then we are placing the base on which they will be able to function. We establish the functioning body. J

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Growth comes through the intercommunication of the members, by the flow of the grace that each one has received and passes on to the other and vice versa, giving and receiving, teaching and being taught, correcting and being corrected, encouraging and being encouraged, loving and being loved, consoling and being consoled, understanding and explaining, receiving and sharing.

Sharing: joy, peace, wisdom, agreement, correction, revelation, warning, proper domain, honor, and comfort.

The fundamental base to live in the kingdom of God, that God established, is the relationship of love between the members, who help each other mutually, according to the member's own work.

That is, according to the gift of each one, according to the measure of grace, according to what each one has received from God.

This whole ministry, all of this help, all of this correction, all of this flow from this river of love, makes us strong, wise and holy. It establishes us, it guides us, it places foundations, it sanctifies, it keeps us, it stimulates us, it teaches us, and it protects us.

The reason for why all of this occurs is because we put ourselves where God wants us...

We understand the secret of the church and we devote ourselves with all our hearts to work in that which God wants us to work in: like a body and not like individuals. Like holy yeast and not specifying on each one, or his gift.

The fundamental base that God has told us is to be a body, united members, to be able to strengthen, grow, mature, and be able to do all the work that God has determined for us.

The task will be completed between all of us, one with the other. Otherwise we will not achieve anything.

Oh and with so much effort does the one who is alone have to make in order to : win someone, be holy, and battle with the devil. First he has to understand his weaknesses, and most likely without a companion, he will find it nearly impossible to understand them.

To maintain oneself firm is much easier if we are united to another. It is very difficult if we are alone, separate.

How hard will it be for the devil to get near us with his schemes and deceptions, when we are all united. Two that are together with Christ in the environment – how hard will it be for the devil to surround us. He tempts one, then the other, but we are joined, and so his influence is minimal, because it is extinguished by the presence of Christ and the unity of the two. Let us separate from each other and we will see the devil that walks around surrounding us will swallow us immediately. Be in the perimeter of one another.

The Spirit instructs us correctly, but we don't get to understand, through joints and ligaments, if we understand. We open our hearts to each other and the wisest, the most prudent, and the most mature helps the other.

We want the Purpose of God, His Kingdom, to get to maturity, and one helps the other to achieve this.

If there are two, when one falls the other one picks him up. If there are two, if they are cold they can both heat up. Neither has all of the intelligence, or the necessary maturity, for God distributed the gifts through the body, so that in the harmony of the body, the gifts may function. Then my capacity will be complete instead of it being relative (partial). The capacity of my brother will also be complete instead of relative.

We are like a puzzle that have to put all the pieces together. We are like a net that is joined by our hair. If we didn't exist, then the net wouldn't exist.

We want to fish, but we are not united. The fishing rod, the line and the worm come from our communion/relationship with God.

We are an attraction to the world, when they see us united. The image of a body is much stronger to bear witness to the world. Of a heap of people going to meetings in search of spiritual loads...

When someone from the world enters into a congregation that does not have joints and ligaments, where the body is not united and where fellowship, help, love, service, specific attention and care and protection do not exist, the person feels coldness because of the absence of communion.

They begin to give the person a lot of meetings and a lot of speeches. They barely help him in his needs and when he is helped it is through someone that isn't capable of doing so, since he doesn't have the concept of what is the church or what he must do with the person. How can you help him? The other one also has his weaknesses, and what ends up happening is that those weaknesses become his own weaknesses now, because he wasn't helped with his own failures.

It is really different when one goes to another church, one that is united through joints and ligaments, united in love, united through the laces of the Holy Spirit.

There the person finds a strength; there exists arms to sustain him. So it is not only that there exists a birth, but there also exists a mother.

It is not to just be born and then be abandoned, it's to be born and be taken care of. There exists the labor, but there also exists fathers and mothers that take care. The family grows and the child grows in holiness, they grow with a spiritual passion, they grow like as the light of God, like a growth that derives from God.

It is vital to understand what it means to be joints and ligaments of each other. The best thing would be to review the Scriptures; starting with 1 Cor. 12, and then Ephesians 4:1-16, Cl. 2:19, 2 Tim. 2:2, Mt. 28:18-20.

Let's put ourselves to work to complete what is left to do in the church. And what is left? This is what's left: "TO BE A UNITED BODY THROUGH THE MEMBERS." The whole body being well intact, without missing a member (or part). A member that is not joined, we consider out of the body.

The whole body being well intact. Intact here means: Being in communion adequately. It does not mean to put that member in just any place or with just anybody, but to place him in Spirit so that he may move for the Spirit. Place him according to the need of each one. Accommodate him according to his dwellings; to be functional.

The one that wins a life for the Lord, will have much more easiness to care for this life if it will be connected to with the other. When he once again joins with them, he will have conditions to grow. For he will be united to his spiritual mothers and fathers. He will have a place: more balanced, with more wisdom, and with more authority and love. More resources exist, more stability, more dedication. There exists more vision, more force/strength, and more trust.

The new person is nourished in a body, that is a family, for grace flows from one to the other. It is the same sense, the same word, and the same direction.

Every body well intact, not just anyone with just anyone. That's why there are Pastors to do the correct sorting of the saints, to organize the house.

In order to do this we have to be guided by the Spirit and have a practical structure. These two elements with the orientation of those who are leading in the house of the Lord is what sufficient to unite us as the body of Christ through the joints and ligaments that help each other, and that serve each other mutually.

They don't work alone. Wisdom does not solely come from communion, but yes, through the presence of Christ that is in the middle of them.