

Title: Ask Not What Your Church Can Do For You –
Ask What You Can Do For Your Church
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1 Corinthians 12:12-14

¹²For 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. ¹³For 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.

One body in Christ but many members

- “whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free”
- Supporting you Church is all about relationship with Jesus, and about being a team.
- There’s a contentment that only comes with knowing your function in the body of Christ.
- Because of the importance of supportive ministry, God has certain requirements that have to be honoured if one wants to build a strong team - and therefore a strong church.

Do you see yourself as a son in the Father’s house?

- **Sons take ownership**

Genesis 14:14

¹⁴Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan

- **Adoption**

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴God sent forth His son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive adoption as sons,” ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

Are you buying into the leader’s vision only, or are you buying into the leader too?

1 Chronicles 12:17a

¹⁷David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, “If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart shall be knit to you.” [Amp].

1 Chronicles 12:16-18

¹⁶Then some of the sons of Benjamin and Judah came to David at the stronghold. ¹⁷And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, “If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since

there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment. ¹⁸Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said: We are yours, O David; We are on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, And peace to your helpers! For your God helps you. So David received them, and made them captains of the troop.

1 Samuel 18:1-2

¹Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ²Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore.

Supporting the leadership with a passion and commitment born out of a desire to serve not just the vision, but the leader. The test: "Are you committed to the leader because of his / her vision (where you think they might be taking you), or are you committed to him / her as a person?"

Romans 13:1-2

¹Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

Do you share the same heart?

Acts 20:30

³⁰Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Deuteronomy 22:10

¹⁰Do not plough with an ox and a donkey yoked together.

Clearly indicating how important it is for all levels of leadership to share the same vision and goals when seeking to be effective in ministry.

Loyalty

- **The cement of a Church building**

Luke 5:1-11

¹So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, ²and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. ³Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. ⁴When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net. ⁶And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. ⁷So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with

Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." ¹¹So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

- **Loyalty is not something we do, but something we are.**

2 Timothy 3:1-5

For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

- **Loyalty is a God-quality.**

Israel continually turned from God, but because of the covenant God was always faithful to them.

- **Loyalty must be earned, but once it is given, it must remain steadfast.**
- **You are not loyal until you are tested in adversity.**

In God's eyes, everyone is a Minister!

Ephesians 4:11-12

¹¹And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry,

Ephesians 4:11-12(Amp)

¹¹Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹²Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

- **Ministry Potential**

David transferred his servant heart unto his men. This transformed them and made them exceed him in mighty deeds

(1 Samuel 22, 1 Chronicles 11:10).

2 Timothy 2:20-21(KJV)

²⁰But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. ²¹If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

The Lord is more interested in right relationships than in receiving our offerings.

Matthew 5:23-24

²³Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.