

1 Corinthians 12:14-27

The proper use of humor is a wonderful teaching tool. In 1 Corinthians 12 God uses humor to instruct His people on the function of the Body of Christ and the importance of each and every member of that Body.

How absurd to think of a foot talking, and yet we read, "If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body?" (1 Cor. 12:15) The ear's job is to hear, yet the text has the ear talking and asking a question: "If the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body?" (1 Cor. 12:15) Talking feet and talking ears should certainly grab our attention!

These amusing illustrations show that the body is made up of many members, and each member has value and performs a needed function. Thus, every member is extremely important. We would not want to be without our feet and our ears. Later we discover that eyes can talk too (1 Cor. 12:21)! In addition, the Lord wants us to imagine a person made up solely of one giant eye (1 Cor. 12:17)! How ridiculous to think of a six foot, 200 pound body that was nothing but an eye! Then in the same verse He wants us to imagine a body that is nothing but an ear! That person would be all ears!

All this Divine humor is to remind us that each member of the body needs every other member. We cannot do without each other. I need my brothers and sisters in Christ and they need me.

How we need to be spiritually healthy so that we can function in God's assembly in the way that God has planned! God, who gave us the capacity for humor, has Himself a wonderful sense of humor (e.g.-Matt. 23:24).

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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