

other means of growth. Apart from ministry, the other means of growth will tend to be viewed as purely self-serving tools, and thus will not result in long term growth.

Barriers to developing Body-life may need to be addressed:

- Culturally glorified self sufficiency and independence
- Broken or alienated homes which can lead to fear of intimate personal relationships
- Previous negative exposure to "church"
- Bitterness or moral impurity
- Ignorance of the biblical teaching on normative involvement in the church
- Exaggerated standard of qualifications for those who do ministry
- Discouragement over previous failure in ministry

Practical Steps Toward Body-life

Regular exposure to fellowship is the first requisite. This involves not only coming to meetings regularly, but also doing social things together and (most importantly) developing close friendships with believers.

Christians should realize that it was normal for the New Testament Christians to have significant fellowship virtually every day (see Acts 2:42,46; Heb 3:13).

One of the best ways to facilitate this is by living with other committed

Christians (including Christian marriages).

To develop ministry, we should begin by trying to meet various needs we discover in the people in our home church. This teaches us to actively search for needs, an essential ability for effective ministry.

When we find needs which are beyond our ability to meet, we should find someone who is competent to help us. By watching them closely while they address a need, we can learn additional ministry skills.

From a We article by McCallum and DeLashmutt



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

9 AUGUST, 2009

Information for Visitors.

* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Cubbies programme is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to Kindy age bracket.**

Principles of Body-life

Because we are a part (and not the whole) of the Body of Christ, we need what the other parts of the Body supply (I Cor. 12:21, 22). For the same reason, the rest of the Body needs our specific function for its overall health (I Cor. 12:15-18).

If we aren't in fellowship, we cannot see needs or discover our spiritual gifts.

Body-life helps to guard us against doctrinal imbalance in our Christian life. Paul traces excesses and heresy to lack of involvement with the rest of the church (Col. 2:19; Eph. 4:14,15).

Involvement with other believers helps make more concrete God's love for us and our love for God (I Jn. 4:20). It is accurate to say that God loves us through others, and others through us (Mt. 25:34-40, I Jn. 4:20,21).

Since the ministry aspect of Body-life is practicing biblical love, it is central to the goal of Christian instruction (I Tim. 1:5). Ministry counteracts a selfish, worldly

value system by replacing it with investment in eternal things--people (see Mt. 6:19-21 and interpret in light of I Thess. 2:19,20).

Victorious love output, based on knowledge of God's love for us, is the biblical key to fulfillment in life (Jn. 13:17; Acts 20:35; I Jn. 4:16-19). Ministry gives an outlet and an unselfish purpose to the





Discipleship Series

Body Life II

The letters to Timothy and Titus describe a dozen responsibilities that we have to each other in the local church. Today we consider another two:

1. Prompt the _____ to _____, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, 8

Paul answers three questions about prayer:

◆ _____ prayer? Verse 1

***(Philippians 4:6-7)** "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; {7} and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*



◆ _____ we pray _____? Verses 1-4

◆ _____ pray? Verse 8

***(1 Corinthians 11:13)** "Judge among yourselves. Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?"*

***(Matthew 21:22)** "'And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.'"*

***(2 Chronicles 7:14)** "'if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*



2. Treat each other as _____, 1 Timothy 5:1-2



Roster for today...

<u>Creche:</u>	Bev/Linda/Shalon
<u>Flowers:</u>	Dorothy
<u>Bible:</u>	Andrew L
<u>Pack up-morning:</u>	Andrew and Lynda
<u>Lord's Table:</u>	No