

# Coach House Church BEACONS

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## 2ND APRIL 2020

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### THE BODY HAS MANY PARTS

Hi there.

Welcome to another daily dose of our Coach House Beacons. Our attempt to bring you some form of encouragement as we do 'church' in any way that we can. I pray that you will be encouraged as you interact with us.

It has been a great pleasure listening to these insights from various members of the Coach House Team. It reminds me that we have varied and wonderful gifts that God gives to us..... and even though we might be stumbling in our presentation, there is no disguising the heart that is captured within these postings.

The Bible tells us that the church is one body made up of many parts. You can read it for yourself in the first letter to the Corinthian Church, chapter 12.

In fact , let me read a portion of this for you..

#### 1 Corinthians 12:12-22 (NLT)

**The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same**

**Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body was an ear how would you smell anything?**

**But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."**

**In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. ....**

Now, if you are anything like me, then you will be forever looking at other people and wishing that you had their skill, or personality etc.

But this is a bit of a problem.

God made me as me and he made you as you. As much as I might like to be something else, God made me ..... well..... me!

Now this is not an excuse to be rude or arrogant. I need to bring under control the bad parts of my attitude and nature. I do this by surrendering to a loving Saviour who made a perfect sacrifice in order to help me become the ultimate version of me that God intended! (and I pray that on the days when it all falls apart that you will forgive me ... just as Jesus forgives me when I turn to Him)

Paul is one of the greatest examples we have in the Bible of someone who endeavours to live a life which is the ultimate version of who God made him. In fact it is Paul who penned the words we read earlier.

If you know the story of Paul (who was also called Saul), you will know that he was not always this kind of man! He had to undergo a life changing moment and surrender his life to Jesus. You can find this part of the story in Acts chapter 9.

Before Paul met Jesus, his personal task was to stand against the believers of the day, bringing persecution and death. Such was the change in his life after his encounter, that Paul became an ambassador for Jesus for the rest of his life.

He would later be put into prison, but still managed to write these words to a church he had helped to establish in Phillipi:

**“.....I have learnt to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength”.**

Whoever it is God has made you .... You can rest and find comfort in these words. We learn to be content with what God has made us.

It is God who completes us and we learn to be content in this.

Once we allow such truth to rest upon us, we can begin to allow God to work through us, using the gifts that He has given us to encourage others around.

This is what has made doing these Beacons such a blessing to us and we hope to you also.

Our gifts will be used in different ways to bring honour to the one who gives the gifts to us  
....

As we journey together let's learn to put our trust in God and allow him to bring out in you the gifts He has given you.

When we surrender to Jesus, you realise that you are specifically placed individually in this great organism called Church.

When we can be content with who we are, then we truly find our place and enter into a great rest.

Psalm 131 puts it like this:

“God I’m not trying to rule the roost. I don’t want to be King of the mountain.  
I haven’t meddled where I have no business or fantasized grandiose plans.  
I’ve kept my feet on the ground, I’ve cultivated a quiet heart  
Like a baby content in its mothers arm,  
My soul is a baby content  
Wait for God. Wait with hope.  
Hope now, hope always.”

Let’s pray together...

Father, thank you that you know what we are capable of.

Thank you that when we surrender to you, you help us to find peace.

You give us a peaceful heart, even when troubles come against us.

You make us complete and equip us with great gifts that enable us to glorify You.

Thank you for the provision of Jesus who makes all this possible.

Holy Spirit we ask you to change us. To make us more like Jesus

Help us to be beacons in the darkness, to bring peace and love to those around us.

Thank you that you trust us to do this.

Thank you for Your peace, which we cannot understand but that we know is real as we experience it day by day.

We give you praise and express our love for all that you have done for us.

We ask that you will continue to help us when we stumble, repair us when we are broken and strengthen that which is weak.

In the name of Jesus we ask.

Amen



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