

Teamwork in the Church
(Romans 12:4-5)

Introduction:

1. This evening we are concentrating on some key passages that relate to "teamwork in the church."
2. The word "teamwork" is not found in the Bible, but the concept of God's people working together as a team is certainly emphasized.
3. We understand the importance of teamwork in sports -- in order for a team to be successful the players must use their talents collectively for the good of the team.
4. Teamwork is also important in the church.
5. Let us begin by showing that . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE CHURCH [THE LORD'S BODY] IS COMPOSED OF MEMBERS
 - A. This principle is addressed in Romans 12:4-5.
 - B. This principle is also addressed in 1 Corinthians 12:13-14.
 1. Vs.13 shows that we are baptized into the Lord's body -- this applies to everyone, including Jews, Gentiles, bond, and free.
 - a. The Bible teaches that we are saved when we are baptized (Mark 16:16).
 - b. When we are saved, the Lord adds us to His church (Acts 2:47).
 2. We understand how the church is composed of many members.
 - C. Since the church is composed of many members from a variety of backgrounds and possessing different talents, there is potential for:
 1. great good, if a spirit of teamwork prevails
 2. evil, if teamwork is hampered by things such as pride, jealousy, or ego.
- II. IN THE CHURCH THINGS THAT INTERFERE WITH TEAMWORK MUST BE ELIMINATED
 - A. This is illustrated in 1 Corinthians 12:15-17, 21, 25.
 - B. Some Old Testament characters showed how things such as jealousy affect teamwork among God's people.
 1. Miriam and Aaron became jealous of Moses (Numbers 12:1-2).
 2. Korah became jealous of Moses and Aaron and tried to lead a rebellion (Numbers 16:1-3).
 - C. Things that interfere with teamwork are detrimental to the church and must be eliminated.
- III. EACH MEMBER MUST CONTRIBUTE WHAT HE/SHE IS ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE
 - A. This principle is emphasized in:
 1. Romans 12:6-8
 2. 1 Peter 4:10-11.
 - B. When each member does what he/she is able to do, the church will be edified, and it will increase (Ephesians 4:16).

Conclusion:

1. We know how to become members of the Lord's church.
2. We know that each member is important.
3. When a spirit of teamwork prevails among God's people, the church will be blessed, and the Lord will be glorified.