

15 OCTOBER 2009

EVERY MEMBER IN MINISTRY

WELCOME: If there was one talent/gift that you could have, what would it be and why?

WORSHIP: Ask each person to come prepared to offer something to this time: a Bible verse, a song choice, a prayer, a poem, a testimony etc. When everyone has done so, thank God for how he has spoken to you all! Praise Him for the Body!

WORD: Read 1 Corinthians 12.12-27
Count up the number of times, Paul says 'many parts, one body' in these verses.

vv 12-14: How do we become part of the body?

Paul lists 4 distortions/misunderstandings in vv 15-16, v17, v 21 and vv 22-26. Examine each in turn and think of concrete examples from your own experience of church life. Then think of some strategies that can be used to counter these distortions.

1. Are we too individualistic in our thinking about church?
2. What is our image of the church, what mental picture comes to mind?
3. How can we change our image to a different one ie the Body.
4. What does it mean to be the 'Body of Christ' in Crosby? Does it matter?
5. When the church does not act as a body, what happens?
6. How do we discover what our own particular ministry is?
(ministry=act of service performed for God)
7. Spend time as a group affirming each other's ministry (make sure everyone knows what theirs is!)
8. Is there anyone in the group who would like to develop their ministry in a new direction?

WITNESS: bearing in mind what the ministry of each group member is, what can you as a group offer to the rest of the church and community? Think of an activity and do it!!