

# SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER - 9AM & 5PM  
SERVICE

ROMANS 12: 9-21



## A RENEWED HEART - FROM MEMBERS TO MINISTERS

- Active ethics
- Relational roles
- Shaped For service
- Moving away from Sunday Centric
- Benchwarmers



# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Belonging to Jesus – brings us into his family. As we start to understand the purpose of family, we realise that this is more than just an idea, but it physically has a response that is required. We do the dishes; we clean up the house. We talk, we listen, we laugh, and we cry together. Why? Because God's plan requires active participation. For the Church to become all that God has called it to be, requires us to realise and remind us that we are all called not just to belong but behave in an intentional capacity.

One of the legacies of the Old Testament is that only certain people had access and function within the temple court. There was a very distinct line between ministers and members. Jesus, as he was dying, tore the temple curtain so that we could all have direct access to him, but also so we could have direct participation in the life of his family, the Church. This decentralising was challenged by often insecure political parties throughout church history. Jesus qualifies you by His Spirit to be active ministers of His grace, His gifts, His spirit, His healing, and His life. Do you see yourself as a minister?

When we realise we are all called to ministry to minister to others in the gifts and abilities, we have been given. We start to see the Church operate as a body collective. READ Ephesians 4:1-16. There are some more 'notable' roles of the body (verse 11), but we see in verse 16 that all the members hold and connect to each other as supporting ligaments. Each part – no matter how big or small, is a vital part of the body. The gifts and abilities that God has given and wants us to develop are vital for the Church to flourish. What are your gifts? Have you considered that there is so much more that God has given you that has been under-utilised?

Ministry is Monday to Saturday. Sunday is the celebration of the whole. How are you operating within your giftings, spiritual and physical, to introduce people to Jesus and disciple them throughout your work? Challenging thought for us all!