

All In The Family Eph. 2:11-22; Eph. 4:1-16 (NIV); John 10:22-30

As believers, God is calling us to be devoted. In the book of Acts, signs and wonders followed the devotion. We all want a move of God but we have switched it around and say, "God if you move then I'll move." God has already moved. His love moved him from a throne in heaven to a cross on Calvary. We need to respond to that love with devotion. Do we understand Jesus' payment for our sin, his sacrifice? Where is our devotion?

*\* "Today, I will listen; today I will hear. Today I will take the time; today I will praise. Today I will seek your face, today I will worship."* How would that revolutionize our lives if we would get up each day with that as our prayer? **Heb.3:7-8.**

We are members of a forever family because of the blood of Jesus. Membership has its privileges but it also has its responsibilities. Are you exercising your responsibility to your assembly? A relationship is dysfunctional when one of the members operates only for the privileges. If we are born again then we are a piece of God's puzzle, aka the church. As a piece of the puzzle are you finding where you fit in? The church is a living organism, it moves and changes as God desires. Are you willing to be changed? Are you willing to be used where God wants to use you? You are a ligament, a limb in the body of Christ. A limb is defined as an active member or agent. A ligament supports an organ in its place. V.16 as ligaments we are to help hold the body together. Are we doing our part even when it's not convenient or comfortable? Are you connected? Are you an active member in your church body? How does your passion for other areas of your life measure up to your passion for the church? Jesus says His sheep (family) listen to His voice. Do we have the ability to **L**isten with understanding or are we listening in order to reply or argue? If we aren't hearing from God through the Word or through others, we need to question our salvation. **John 10:4.** are we **I**ntentionally interacting with others? God desires His family to do things together, not just with each other but with Him; that's called devotion. We need to be intentional in getting to know each other and the easiest way is in CARE Groups. God's idea of family has eternal values in mind. The ultimate goal, the **M**ission God has in mind for His church is that they be conformed to the image of His Son. When we are conformed to His image, salvations happen, evangelism happens. Do you love God's church? If you do then you want to see it grow, not just in number but in maturity, in victory; He wants to see the green bead in our lives. We may not make it to next week, next year, so now is the time to serve the Lord, to passionately pursue Him. Where is the fruit of our devotion? Where are the crowns to lay at His feet? It's a vital relationship that grows because we are trying to be more like Him. The journey is forward. Are we in the **CAR**? Are we **c**onected to God and others? Are we willing to **a**cept the other people in the car as well? Are we being **r**econciled to each other? The church needs each one of us. The Holy Spirit will enable us to walk in what He has called us to. If we want to move forward we need to take our offences, our unforgiveness, our disrespect and resentment to the cross and ask Jesus to cover them with His blood. Until we do, there will be road blocks in our way and the body will be hindered from moving forward as well; there will be organs falling out of the body because a ligament is not doing its appointed job. Until we are reconciled to others we are out of fellowship with God **Mk. 11:26.** If we want on board with the mission we need to humble ourselves and intentionally become more like Jesus. **CAR** is who we are and

what we do; we connect, we accept, and we reconcile. Do you **B**.elong to Jesus? Is He your Lord and Master? Then you are part of God's puzzle. He has a place where you fit perfectly. Don't try to force it, don't run ahead of Him; allow Him to move and shape the puzzle the way He wants. If we **L**isten, if we **I**ntentionally interact, and get on board with God's **M**ission there will be evidence that we **B**elong to Him. Show yourself to be a believer of Jesus Christ. Stand up and be counted.

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