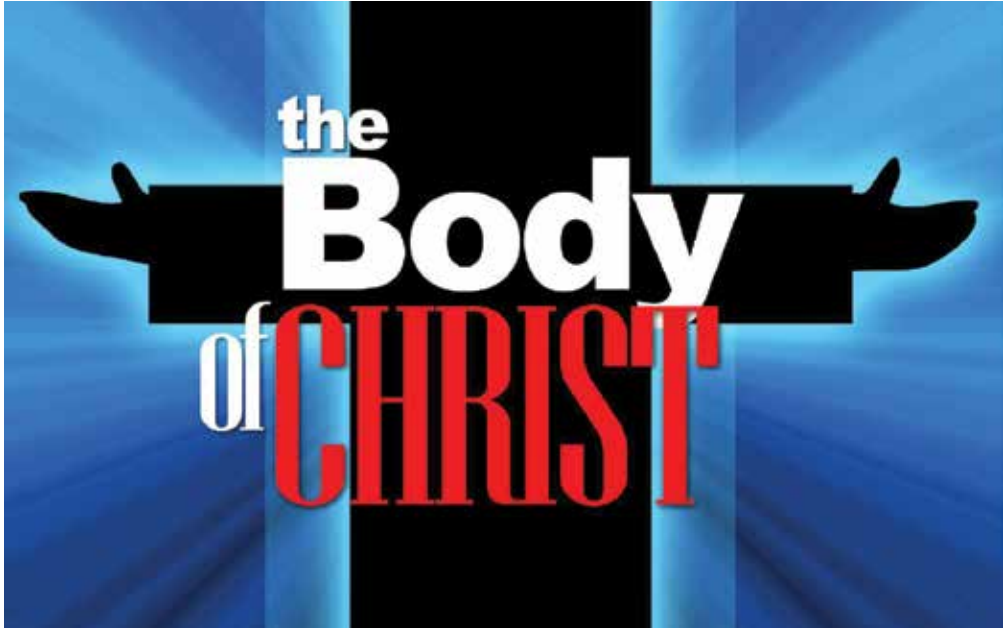


⁴For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

Romans 12:4-5 NKJV



Berean Bible Church

Service of
Worship & Communion

Sunday, 5 March, 2017

Sunday School 9:30am
Morning Worship - 10:40am | Evening Service - 6:00pm
Midweek Service (Wednesday) - 7:30pm
Hothersal Turning, St. Michael | Rev. Ronald Trotman - Pastor
Tel: 426-4707 | 571-4259
pastor@bereanbarbados.org | www.bereanbarbados.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!

3 Ways to Make a Difference in the Place God Puts You

God has placed us where we are for a purpose; whether we can see it or not, God has his glory in mind for our good. This means the place God puts us is not really about us—it's about him and his kingdom. If we only look for what we desire, we will always exist in a waiting period—waiting for God to take us somewhere else or give us something we want. But, if we see the place God has put us as somewhere we can act for his glory, then we will grow where we are and we will cherish the place we are in because it became fruitful in ways we never imagined.

The Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30 is a wonderful example. To summarize the parable, a master is going on a journey and he has entrusted his servants with some of his talents, each according to their ability. The master did not give the servants an equal share; he gave them what they could handle and expected them to do great things with it regardless of how much they were given.

The servant who received five talents doubled what he was given and was able to give the master 10 talents when he returned; the servant who received 2 talents also doubled what he was given and was able to give the master 4 talents when he returned. The master gave the same response to both of these men, in Matthew 25:21: "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'" It didn't matter that they were given different amounts in the beginning; they both used what the master gave them and expanded upon it for his glory.

The third servant received one talent, and instead of investing it, he buried it. When the master returned, this servant gave the talent (unused) back to the master. The servant missed the bigger picture, and he missed the vast grace of the master because he was too caught up in himself and what he wasn't given. Because the servant did not use even the little he was given, he was not counted as faithful.

This parable urges us to do three things in the place God has put us:

1. Recognize that God has given you exactly what you can handle for his glory in the place he has put you.

What does that mean? It means instead of focusing on what you don't have, see the place you are in as a gift to be used for God's glory. Erwin Lutzer reminds us, "The work that God does in us when we wait is usually more important than the thing for which we wait!" There is so much we can learn from God when we embrace the place he has us in, rather than wasting our time looking for a way out. If you don't understand the place God has put you, pray for understanding, ask for guidance, and read his Word for clarity. Remember that wherever you are God has a purpose for this place, and he has equipped you to bring him glory there.

2. Use what God has given you to the best of your ability for his glory.

God will give you the strength you need to accomplish the tasks he has placed before you. Matthew 5:15 declares, "Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." The gospel is to be shared with all people, in all places, at all times. Wherever you are, you are a steward of God's gospel in your community. Don't waste the place you are in because it doesn't fit your ideal description of where you want to be. No matter what, continue to use what you have been given for the glory of the Giver.

3. Do not compare what God has given you with what he has given someone else.

If you have been given what seems like a little, do great things with that little! It's not about how much we have, but rather what we do with the things God has given us. Lutzer also points out, "If there is one single reason why good people turn evil, it is because they fail to recognize God's ownership over their kingdom, their vocation, their resources, their abilities, and above all their lives." Everything we have been given is God's first, and any little bit he gives us is a gift to be used and shared in humility and joy.

When we do not use what God has given us, we are surely coveting something else or some place else. We often focus on the earthly blessings that we desire and have yet to receive, rather than the eternal blessings we have been promised, which are infinitely better than anything we could ask for or seek on this earth.

Are you producing fruit where God has placed you? If not, ask yourself why you are not using the gifts God has given you. For when the Master returns, he will look not at how much you did but your faithfulness with what you were given.

Liz Kanoy

Order of Service

Ministry of Music – Choir

Invocation

Hymn 139

Hymn 160

Hymn 164

1st Scripture Reading: Heb 9:11-28

Hymn 155

Prayer

Notices – Offering

Ministry of Music – Choir

Hymn 169

Sermon – Rev. Ronald Trotman

Hymn 157

Distribution of Elements

Special Offering

2nd Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Hymn 170

Benediction – Choir



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

- **All members working in the Body**
- God's guidance for the Pastor, board and all who are in leadership positions and the expansion of our ministries
- For the youth of our church and the wider Hothersal community
- Our new Converts in Christ
- For the healing of the sick and grieving
- For employment for the unemployed
- For the members of Government that we may continue to live in peace
- For the peace of Jerusalem

Join US next Sunday at 6pm for an engaging Bible Study



Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11 NIV

March Birthdays

1st – Collin Jackson

5th – Anthony Alleyne

– Jenny Lynn Francis

7th – Carl Ward

8th – Tiffany Brathwaite

14th – Lucy Crichlow

16th – Cherise Brathwaite

18th – Roselyn Dixon

20th – Pearlita Franklin

– Delores Ward

24th – Rosalind Conliffe

25th – Eartha Skeete

27th – Joyce Belgrave

30th – Kim Bayley

– Cheryl Branch

31st – Ricardo Parris

Anniversaries

8th – Marva & Victor Springer

23rd – Hilton & Jenny Piggott