**First, Don’t Be Full of Yourself (3)**

1. ***You*** Need ***= Body*** of Christ = ***Body*** of Xp ***Needs You*** = God ***Himself*** Sovereignly—Purposefully ***Designed***
2. ***Lot*** of People = ***Frustrated*** W/ Church = ***Been*** Hurt—***Trust*** Issues***—Full*** of Hypocrites—Not ***Need*** Church
   1. Some Developed ***Bad*** Covid ***Habits*** =Risk & Uncertainty ***of Last*** 2 Yrs =Easier ***For Us*** To Be ***Disconnected***
   2. No Matter ***What*** Our Feelings & Experience ***Have Been*** = Question: ***Is Your Thinking*** @ Church ***Biblical***
   3. Unhealthy & Rebellious = ***Think*** About ***God’s*** Church—***Christ’s*** Body = ***Unbiblical*** Ways
   4. Church = ***1st*** ***Place*** Paul ***Applies*** His Call ***To Transformation*** = ***Renewal*** of Our Minds ***According*** To WOG
3. ***To Be*** Jesus’ ***Disciple*** = You & I ***Must*** Think ***@*** Church ***Way*** Jesus ***Does*** = We ***See*** That? = ***Conformed*** To Xp
   1. John 13:35—"*By this all people will know that you are my disciples,* ***if*** *you have love for one another*.”
   2. ***Chief*** Mark ***Of*** ***Follower*** of Jesus = ***Love*** For His Church = ***What*** Look ***Like*** = Rom. 12:3-8
4. **(3)** Starts ***W/ Warning*** @ Thinking ***Too*** Highly ***of Selves*** = Exactly ***What Do*** =Trust ***Own*** Thoughts & Feelings
   1. Think Too Highly = If Comfortable Being Disconnected = ***Rather Than*** Submitting ***Selves*** To Xp & Word
   2. Think ***Too*** Highly = ***If*** Ignore ***Teaching*** of Bible ***On Spiritual*** Nature—Importance—Function ***of Church***
5. Think Too Highly = If Think Not Need Body of Xp = If Stand Aloof—Stand Apart = Judge the Church
6. Think Too Highly = If Think No Responsibility To Body of Xp = If We W/Hold = What God Wants Us To Give
   1. Not Loving One Another = If Isolate Selves = Not Giving & Receiving = In Body Of Xp As God Designed
7. **(3)** Opposite of Thinking Too Highly of Selves = Think W/ Sober Judgment = Have Mind—Thinking ***Renewed***
   1. Hard ***To See*** In English = “***Think***” = 4X—Not ***Think*** More Than ***Should*** Think—***Think*** W/ Sober ***Thinking***
8. ***Minds*** Need = ***Renewed*** @ Selves & Church = ***Start*** Thinking ***God’s*** Thoughts @ ***Body*** of Xp ***Our Place*** In It
   1. 1 Tim. 3:14-15—"*I am writing these things to you so that…you may know* ***how one ought to behave*** *in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth*.” = Church
   2. Church Founded By King Jesus—Brought Into Being By HS—***Focal*** Point of ***Work*** of Xp & HS ***on Earth***
9. **(3)** ***This*** = WOG = ***Paul*** Speaking ***Soberly*** W/ Apostolic ***Authority*** = By Grace ***Given*** = “***To Every*** One ***Of You”***
   1. ***W/ Authority*** of God ***Paul*** Says = ***We Need*** Think ***Seriously*** @ Church ***Your*** Place ***In Body*** of Xp

**Second, FOR We Are One Body With Many Gifts (4-6)**

1. **(4) *Body*** Metaphor **(5)** ***Applies*** To Church 🡪 ***Every*** Body = ***Many*** Parts = ***Every*** Part ***Specialized*** Function
   1. Hands&Feet***—***Eyes & Ears***—Nose—Heart =*** List ***Goes On =*** All ***So Very*** Different***—So Very*** Important
   2. Diversity—***But*** Life-Giving ***Interdependence*** 🡪 All ***Parts***—Make ***1 Body*** = 1 Harmonious ***Unified*** Whole
   3. When All ***Parts*** = Present—Healthy—Functioning = ***Whole*** Body = ***Healthy***—Strong = Purposeful
2. **(5)** Applies ***Metaphor*** To Church = ***So***—In Same Way = ***Church***—***You*** = 1 ***Body*** In Christ = ***We Are*** Body of Xp
   1. ***We Are*** = Body = W/ ***Many*** Parts = ***Every*** Member ***Specialized*** Function = ***Together*** = 1 Unified ***Whole***
   2. If ***You Are*** A Xpian = ***Born*** Into Body = ***Part*** of Something ***Bigger*** Than ***Self*** = Not ***Belong*** To Self
   3. 1 Cor. 6:19-20—"*You are not your own, for you were bought with a price*” = Become ***Part*** Of Body ***of Xp***
3. **(5)** “*we, though many, are one body in Christ, and* ***individually*** *members one of another*” ***= Connected!***
   1. **(NIV)** “*each member belongs to all the others*” = Not ***Your*** Own = ***Hand*** Belongs ***to Foot*** = Belongs ***To***…
   2. ***This*** = Indicative = Simple—Objective—Spiritual ***Truth*** = Must ***Be Upon*** Our Hearts = ***In Renewed*** Minds
   3. I ***Belong To*** The Body = ***Part*** of Something = ***Bigger*** Than Me = Like Hand Or Foot = Small But Important
4. **(6) *Point*** =Everyone ***Important*** Part ***To Play*** = God ***Uniquely*** Designed & Gifted ***Body*** of Xp = ***Own*** Purposes
   1. 1 Cor. 12:7—"*To each is given the* ***manifestation of the Spirit*** *for the common good.*” = For Church
   2. ***IOW*** God ***Saying*** = Given ***Something*** To You = ***Wants*** You ***To Give It*** To Church = ***Pass It*** On
5. Say As Gently As Can = When W/Hold Our Gifting & Involvement In Church = Rob Church of God’s Gift
   1. ***Reminds Me*** = Mal. 3:8—"*Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions*” =As God Blesses & Provides For Us = Provides For Church
   2. Like Wedding Shower = You Gave Me Gift = Pass On To Couple = But Not Go To Shower = Keep It
   3. ***God*** Says = ***Given*** All ***of You*** Gifts & Resources = ***Asks*** Pass On = ***So Wrong***! = Not ***Show Up*** = Keep ***Gifts***
6. God Blessed Us To Be Blessing = Gifted Us For Common Good of Church = To Build Up Body of Christ
   1. Our Gifts & Talents & Abilities = Not About Us = My Gifts Are For You = Your Gifts Are For Me—Them
   2. Boice—“*You, as a Christian, have a right to the gifts the other members of the body have been given, and they have a right to your gift. You cheat them if you do not use it, and you are poorer if you do not depend on them.*” = ***God’s*** Gifts = ***For*** Welfare & Effectiveness ***of Church*** = Every ***One*** of Us ***= Important***

**Finally, Use Your Gifts, Given By Grace (6-8)**

1. **(6) *Gives*** List ***of Gifts*** = Prophecy—Service—Teaching—Exhortation—Generosity—Leadership—Mercy
   1. ***One*** of Several ***Lists*** = 1 Cor. 12—Eph. 4 = ***None*** of Lists ***Same***—All ***Different***—Not ***Exhaustive***
   2. More ***Gifts*** Than ***Listed*** = Point ***In Every*** List = ***Every*** Xpian ***Received*** Gift = ***Every*** Gift—Person ***Important***
2. **(6)** All Have Different Gifts 🡪 According To Grace Given To Us = Not ***Choose*** Our Gifts = ***Given*** To Us
   1. 1 Pet. 4:10-11—"*As* ***each has received a gift****, use it* ***to serve one another****, as good stewards* ***of God's varied grace****: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order* ***that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ***”
   2. Peter & Paul ***Applications*** = Use ***Your Gifts*** = Whatever ***They Are*** = Intended ***For*** Good & Health ***of Body***
3. First ***Way*** Not ***Think*** Too ***Highly*** of Selves =***Think*** of Selves ***As Belonging*** To Xp =***Gifted*** Member ***of His Body***
   1. ***Need*** Sound—Biblical ***Theology*** of Church = ***Transform*** Our Lives—Choices = ***By Renewal*** Of Thinking
   2. God ***Thru*** Paul = ***Describing*** His Church = ***As*** Unified ***Whole***—Intentional ***Diversity*** of Gifts = ***And*** Active!
   3. ***People*** Teaching—Leading 🡪 ***People*** Being Generous—***Showing*** Practical Mercy—***Serving*** Each Other
   4. Church ***Being*** Church 🡪 ***Pastors*** Not ***Church***—***Blding*** Not = ***You =*** Church = Gloriously ***Gifted*** Body of Xp
4. **(6)** “*Let Us Use Our Gifts*” = ***To Serve*** = Jesus ***Said*** = Greatest ***Among You*** = Servant ***of All*** = Servant’s ***Heart***
   1. When ***Think*** Biblically = ***Like*** This = ***Realize*** Being ***Part*** of Church = ***Not*** First @ ***Receiving*** = But ***Giving***
   2. ***Important*** Appl ***of Easter*** = Phil. 2:3-5—"*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Xp Jesus”*
   3. As Think***@Church*** *=* Think *@****Being*** Faithful ***Stewards*** of God’s Grace = ***To*** God’s Glory = ***Good*** of Church
   4. Calvin—"*Whatever ability a faithful Christian may possess, he ought to possess it for his fellow believers & he ought to make his own interest subservient to the well-being of the church in all sincerity*
5. Always ***Been*** Challenge ***For Body of Christ*** To Fire ***On All*** Cylinders = ***To Mobilize*** God’s ***People*** = 20/80
   1. Not ***Believe*** = Stat ***True*** For Our Church = ***But*** This ***Good*** Time = ***To Renew*** Our Minds ***@ Church***
   2. ***Covid*** Shrunk—***Even*** Paused ***Ministries*** = Less ***People*** Involved = ***Been*** Challenge ***Getting*** Volunteers
   3. This Understandable = ***But*** Time ***To Re-Awaken*** To Purposes ***of God*** In His Church = ***ReThink*** Church
   4. SS ***Teachers***—Greeters ***At Check-in***—In Foyer 🡪 ***Youth*** Volunteers = ***Need*** Leaders = ***New*** Deacons
   5. ***Start*** HFG—***New*** SG = ***Discipleship*** Groups = ***Worship*** Team—***Tech*** Booth = ***Many*** Opportunities
6. ***What If*** = We Approached ***Church*** = W/ Renewed ***Mind*** = That ***Asks*** Not ***What*** Church ***Doing*** For Me….
   1. ***What If*** Come ***To Church*** = Not ***Just*** To Receive ***God’s*** Good Gifts =***But*** To Be ***God’s*** Good Gift ***To Church***
   2. ***What If*** =All ***Thought*** @ Church W/ ***Mind of Xp*** Acts 20:35—"*It is more blessed to give than to receive*.”
7. ***I Have*** A Dream = ***Of Jesus’*** Church = ***Where*** Every ***Member*** = Gifted & Empowered ***By HS*** = Glorifying ***God***
   1. Eph. 4:15-16—“*We* [Church] *are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part* [each person] *is* ***working properly,*** *makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love*.”
   2. ***What*** = Your ***Dream*** For Church? = ***What*** Your Part ***In It***? = Are You ***Thinking*** Biblically ***@ Body of Xp***?
8. Father Placed Us Together—As Body Connected Each Other & To Xp—***Head***🡪 HS ***Manifests*** Gifts Thru Us
   1. ***Gifts*** Are His = ***Their Purpose*** Is His = ***Their Power*** Is His = ***Body*** Is His = ***This*** What ***God*** Is Doing!
   2. We Are ***Body of Christ*** = Filled & Animated ***By His Spirit*** = Gifted & Empowered ***To Advance*** Kingdom
   3. ***What*** = Your ***Dream*** For Church? = ***What*** Your Part ***In It***? = Are You ***Thinking*** Biblically ***@ Body of Xp***?
9. 2 Tim 1:6—“*fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you*= Be ***The Church***—Be ***Who*** You Are = ***Body of Xp***