**22-05-13**

**DOING BUSINESS FOR THE KINGDOM**

**Text: Romans 12:1-11**

* Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, [which is] your reasonable service.
* Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what [is] that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
* Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think [of himself] more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.
* Rom 12:4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,
* Rom 12:5 so we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.
* Rom 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, [let us use them]: if prophecy, [let us
* prophesy] in proportion to our faith;
* Rom 12:7 or ministry, [let us use it] in [our] ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;
* Rom 12:8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
* Rom 12:9 [Let] love [be] without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil.
* Cling to what is good.
* Rom 12:10 [Be] kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honour giving preference to one another;
* Rom 12:11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

**INTRO:**

* Last week, we studied on doing business till Jesus Comes
* We ended with a question, what is our business for Him?
* It would be nice to start where we ended

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO KNOW OUR BUSYNESS FOR HIM?
* FOR US TO USE OUR GIFTS FOR HIM

**I. PRESENT YOUR BODIES TO GOD-V 1**

* A living sacrifice
* Holy
* Acceptable to God
* Lev 22:19 '[you shall offer] of your own free will a male without blemish from the cattle, from the sheep, or from the goats.
* Lev 22:20 'Whatever has a defect, you shall not offer, for it shall not be acceptable on your behalf.
* Which is reasonable service
* this is your true and proper worship (NIV).

**II. DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD-V 2**

* Be transformed by the renewing of your mind
* Then you will learn to know God's will for you
* Which is good and pleasing and perfect.

**III. KNOW YOUR FUNCTION IN THE BODY-V 4 & 5**

* The body has many parts
* Each part has a special function
* So it is with Christ’s body-v 5
* We are many parts of one body-v 5
* 1Cr 12:17 If the whole body [were] an eye, where [would be] the hearing? If the whole [were] hearing, where [would be] the smelling?
* 1Cr 12:18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.
* We all belong to each other (NLT)
* Know your gifts-v 6
* Rom 12:6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.
* Using your gifts for the kingdom should be your busyness.
* Everyone has a gift
* 1Peter 4:10 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another (NLT)
* There is no one here who doesn’t have a gift
* Rom 11:29 For God's gifts and his call can never be withdrawn.

**IV. OUR BUSYNESS IN THE KINGDOM- V 6-8**

**1. ABILITY TO PROPHESY**

* So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.

**2. SERVING OTHERS (MINISTERING)**

* Serve them well

**3. TEACHING**

* Teach well
* 1Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.
* 1Timothy 4:15 Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.

**4. GIFT OF ENCOURAGEMENT or EXHORTATION-V 8**

* Act 4:36 And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus,
* 1Thess 5:11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.
* Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as [is] the manner of some, but exhorting [one another], and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

**5. GIFT OF GIVING-V 8**

* Give generously/liberally
* 2 Cor 8:1 Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia:
* 2 Cor 8:2 that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.
* 2 Cor 8:3 For I bear witness that according to [their] ability, yes, and beyond [their] ability, [they were] freely willing,
* 2 Cor 8:4 imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
* 2 Corinthians 11:9 And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep [myself].

**6. LEADERSHIP ABILITY-V 8**

* Take the responsibility seriously
* With diligence-steady effort
* 1Pet 5:1 And now, a word to you who are elders in the churches. I, too, am an elder and a witness to the sufferings of Christ. And I, too, will share in his glory when he is revealed to the whole world. As a fellow elder, I appeal to you:
* 1Pet 5:2 Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God.

**7. GIFT OF SHOWING KINDNESS TO OTHERS (MERCIFUL)- V 8**

* Do it gladly or with cheerfulness

**8. MIRACLES**

**9. GIFTS OF HEALING**

**10. GIFT OF TONGUES**

* 1Cr 12:28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages.
* 1 Cor 12:29 Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles?
* 1 Cor 12:30 Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages?
* Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not!
* 1Cor 12:31 So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.
* But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all

**V. WAY OF LIFE –Vs 9-11**

* Don't just pretend to love others.
* Really love them.
* Hate what is wrong.
* Hold tightly to what is good.
* Love each other with genuine affection
* Take delight in honouring each other.
* Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.

**CHALLENGE:**

* Do you now know your gifts?
* Are you functioning in the body or you are just an appendix?
* Are you using your gift to edify the body?

**CONCLUSION:**

* Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, [which is] your reasonable service.