

## **Body Life: It's About People Not Places or Programs**

Programs and a meeting place help facilitate the coming together of God's people but they are not the real essence of the Church. To experience Body Life, the church must put its primary focus on relationships. First comes a love relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ. Having become a part of His family, we then become members of one another to form a body — the Body of Christ.

If too much attention is put on the place then the church tends to become lifeless and seeks to contain an omnipresent God. If too much emphasis is given to programs and structures then the church becomes more of an organization or bureaucracy that tends to limit the working of an omnipotent God to those functions. When the primary focus is placed on people and relationships then the church functions as a living organism in which God's presence and power are known wherever they go and in whatever they do. True "Body Life" happens in both planned settings and in spontaneous or unstructured gatherings within the walls of a church building and outside in the every day lives of His people.

This is God's design for the growth of the Body. The results of true Body Life speak for themselves. The pragmatic value should be enough to motivate you toward it but also remember that relating in various ways with one another is a biblical command, not an option.

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