

# **THE BODY OF CHRIST**

**A Conference with the Church in Columbus, Ohio  
January 28-29, 2006**

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## **MESSAGE THREE: THE PRACTICALITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST IN THE LOCAL CHURCH LIFE**

### **I. Putting on the new man which was created according to God (Eph. 4:24).**

- A. By being renewed in the spirit of our mind (Eph. 4:23).
- B. Practicing being members one of another (Eph. 4:25)
- C. Not being drunk with wine, but being filled in spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord  
(Eph. 5:18-19).
- D. Nourishing and cherishing all the members of the Body, as Christ loves the church (Eph. 5:29).
- E. Putting on the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:11).

### **II. Honoring all the members as well as ourselves.**

- A. Knowing we were all baptized into one body (1 Cor. 12:13).
- B. Knowing God has placed all the members in the body, even as He willed (1 Cor. 12:18).
- C. Experiencing the Body life by having the same care for one another (1 Cor. 12:25).
- D. Suffering with the suffering member and rejoicing with the glorified member (1 Cor. 12:26).
- E. Realizing that no member can be cut off from the organic Body, despite what we may say of ourselves (1 Cor. 12:15-16).

F. Treasuring the ministry of all members.

*Every member has a particular portion with which he serves the Body of Christ. The eyes see, the ears hear, and the nose smells. Each organ has its function, and each has its portion. The eyes serve the body by seeing. The ears serve the body by hearing. The nose serves the body by smelling. Each has its own responsibility, and none can replace another. Member A cannot be member B, and member B cannot be member C. Each member has his own characteristics, and each has his own capability.*

*The characteristics and capabilities constitute the place, position, or ministry of each member. The characteristics of a member are the ministry of that member, which is the supply it renders to the Body. The ministry of a member dictates his place and position in the Body. The portion of each member in the Body is not for himself, but for the whole Body.*

—Watchman Nee, *The Collected Works of Watchman Nee*, Volume 44, page 821.

**III. Pursuing the prophesying, even more the prophesying as a prophet (1 Cor. 14:1, 29-31).**

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