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COTES

"Me to We"

Message 7 in the series, "SoulShift" I Corinthians 12:12-27

The Shift from "Me" to "We" = a _____

How to Develop a "We"

- Together
 Together
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 Together
- As followers of Jesus, you and I are meant to walk our faith journey together. You're never alone. Never.
- When your religion is better than your relationships, you have a broken view of what God wants for His Church.

The SoulShift Prayer

Lord, may I walk in Your ways and reflect Your likeness to those around me. Give me a heart for those around me who are in need of Your grace. Help me believe even when I have not yet seen. May I be generous with every good gift you have given me. Help me turn off the noise of this world and listen for Your still small voice. Following You as my guide, equip me to lead others, influencing this world for Your Kingdom. Help me to see the beautiful tapestry You have created in the community of faith here at church as we join together to out-love the world. Amen.

I Corinthians 12:22-27 (ESV)

.... ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

FOR GROW GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- I. Are you or were you ever a member of a "club" or group? Did that club or group have "requirements" for membership? Do clubs or groups ever exclude people because they don't "fit in"? How do you feel about that?
- 2. How connected do you feel to your church? How have you tried to make others feel connected at church? In other contexts?
- 3. How have you ever felt excluded from a group? Have you ever felt excluded from a group at church?
- 4. Read Romans 12:9-21 and Colossians 3:12-13 out loud. What phrases or words stand out for you? Why do you think those words spoke to you? How does this passage describe we are to treat one another in the Church? How are we to treat those not in the Church?
- 5. Read Nehemiah chapter I. Nehemiah wrote these words well over a century after the original Israelites were exiled from their "promised land" due to their sin. Yet, in his prayer he uses the word, "we," taking responsibility for sins committed decades before he was even alive. When was a time when you took responsibility for someone else's "sin" or error? Why did you do so? What was the result?
- 6. As you've listened to the message or as you read the Scripture passages, what is God bringing to your mind and heart? What do you want to do about it?

This series is based in part on the book, SoulShift, by Steve DeNeff and David Drury © 2011, Wesleyan Publishing House. Used by permission.