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# Words of Truth

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## Be Needed And Be Needy

By: Brian A. Yeager

The Lord did not create man so that man would be independent. First, God wants man to be dependent upon Him spiritually and physically (I Chronicles 16:11, Psalms 9:10, Psalms 145:10-21, Proverbs 3:5-7, Amos 5:4, Matthew 6:24-34, Acts 14:17, Titus 2:11-14, Hebrews 9:11-28, and I Peter 1:3-25). Secondly, the Lord told Adam: “...*It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him*” (Genesis 2:18). Man was given a help meet (Genesis 2:19-24) from the very beginning. Even though his help meet turned and became harmful to him (I Timothy 2:13-14). Still, it was better to have someone as a help meet than to be alone.

Solomon established that two or more is better than one. Notice: “*Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken*” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).

Beginning in the first century and lasting until the end of this world, the Lord established local congregations so that His followers would not be alone. Each member of the congregation is to be dependent upon each other. This was even true when it came to spiritual gifts (Romans 12:4-8 and I Corinthians 12:3-31). The Scripture says: “*From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love*” (Ephesians 4:16).

I am writing this because we saw here locally in April of this year that some of our members here in El Paso didn't understand these points. They decided that they did not need to be part of this congregation. They decided that this congregation did not need them. One member (Mike Terry) vocally stated that membership in this congregation was of little profit to him and his family. They didn't need us and they had never made themselves available enough to be needed either. Then, we watched George Luna divisively leave (as he did years ago as well) this congregation. Then the Remes family, who were by far the most uninvolved members we had, blindly followed George. In a June Tuesday night class I asked how many missed some of these people. The answers were saddening.

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## Invest In The Relationship

The body of Christ is supposed to be a family (Ephesians 3:15). As of today, we are close again as a congregation unlike I have seen in the past three years or so. Our losses may have been a good thing (I Corinthians 5:6-8). Nonetheless, it is a sad reality. It is a reality I certainly don't want to see repeated. Thus, this lesson is being taught. I have taught it before though (<https://www.wordsoftruth.net/wotvol17/wotbulletin12182016.html>). In fact, in that article I stated: "Sadly, we have some members that wouldn't be missed so much if gone. Are you one of them?" When I wrote that article, I was concerned about the Remes family who had not invested themselves in this congregation. We know that where your treasure is your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21). We rarely saw the Remes family outside of Sunday assemblies. I know several of us made many efforts to include them. Now that they are gone. Their absence is only noticeable in the sense that we care for their lost souls (Psalms 119:136 and Philippians 3:18). That's the sad truth! They were not important. They were not invested. They were not dependent on us nor we on them. Let's think on a few things.

Make yourself needed among the saints. Be as hospitable as you are capable of being (Romans 12:13 and I Peter 4:9-11). Be someone who can be called upon for spiritual or carnal support (Acts 15:1-35, Acts 20:35, Romans 15:25-27, Romans 16:1-4, Galatians 6:1-2, Hebrews 10:22-25). Have areas of expertise wherein brothers and/or sisters can look to you for counsel (Proverbs 11:14 and Titus 2:3-5). Contribute to the Lord's work (I Corinthians 16:1-2). It amazes me that we lost eight members with substantial incomes (according to their lifestyles) and our contribution was affected, but not as drastically as a reasonable person would think it should have been. Act like members of our spiritual family (I Timothy 5:1-2).

Invest yourself in this congregation as one who is needy. Be one who needs to be around faithful saints as often as possible (Romans 14:19 and Hebrews 3:13). When you need help, be dependent on your brethren for such help (II Timothy 1:16-18). I am dependent on this congregation for financial support (I Corinthians 9:1-14). Be dependent upon me for your spiritual growth (I Corinthians 16:15-16, I Thessalonians 5:11-14, and I Timothy 4:1-16). Share your joys and sorrows with the saints (Romans 12:15). Don't look to the world for your support. Be in need of our spiritual family (II Thessalonians 1:3).

## Conclusion

Imagine you have a right arm that is dead. Blood does not flow properly. You have no feeling in it. One day, that arm gets caught in some machinery and gets all chewed up. You didn't even know it, because that arm was useless to you. You get that arm amputated. Will you miss it? No, you will not miss it. It was useless. It won't miss you either, it was a dead member hanging from your body. Brethren, don't be a useless member of the Lord's body. Keep on with the level of activity we are currently seeing among the saints here!