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The Naz Prayer Ministry

A Majestic Mosaic

Kaleidoscopes have always fascinated me.

Most of the ones I've had were the 99 cent versions, but a few years ago my wife parted with a \$20 bill for the one I have now. I've also seen the "Rolls Royce" versions priced at \$1000 and more. The most expensive one was over \$10,000! But here's a little secret.

While the pricey ones may have ornate cylinders, even studded with jewels and overlaid with gold leaf, the effect is still nothing more than the spectrum of light filtered through a random mix of colors carefully reflected to produce its signature symmetry.

By God's design an amazing kaleidoscope of gifts, talents, temperaments and personalities can be seen in every body of believers. The natural eye, however, tends to notice merely the "gold-plated" charisma and leadership mantels that a few have had placed on their shoulders. And unfortunately it is just as natural to define others or even ourselves by the way we measure up against the backdrops of what we see in others, whether it be the "bell ringers" or the "simply average." But measuring by such distinctions (or the lack thereof) betrays the influence of the culture rather than mindset of the Kingdom.

The Corinthian church had this problem. When Paul wrote about some members of the Body appearing weak and less noble (1 Corinthians 12:16), he was exposing the Corinthian believers' tendency to value those individuals through the lens of their own cultural bias rather than the way members of Christ's Body should see each other. Those they normally would overlook, he admonishes them, should be treated with gracious care instead of concentrating lavish attention just on those considered more noble.

They were failing to see each other with Kingdom clarity.

Each member of Christ's Body is equally valuable. The gifts will differ. The ministries will vary. The effects on the life of the Body will be uniquely beneficial to the health and welfare of the Church and its place in the community. But those differences do not define anyone as "lesser" or "more."

The apostle Paul reflects on how his perspective changed when he no longer evaluated others from a worldly point of view (2 Corinthians 5:16), a perspective that fails to see what God sees: a majestic mosaic of His new creations, redeemed and loved.

Take Your Next Step

Pray for spiritual eyes that look beyond the limits of human perception. Ask God to open your eyes to the wonder, the mosaic of grace in those around you.

Seek to see what He sees.

And regularly ask God to remind you what He sees when He thinks of you.

From childhood you have been taught to see the world, those in it, as well as yourself through the lens of your culture. Even though God's Spirit awakens you to a new reality, the influence of that culture persists and attempts to impose on you a sense of how you are defined outside of grace.

To see through the eyes of the Savior is to discover the mosaic of His Body

To discover life through the lens of His grace is to experience the call and awe of your place in His heart and His plan.