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***A Church Make-Over***

(1 Corinthians 16)

When a church sputters, it’s because the body parts have gone rogue…

* Myopic vision
* Disrespect of leadership
* Lack of community-embraced convictions

*How to fire up the flawed church…*

1. **Develop vision beyond yourself** (1-4)

 From your prosperity contribute to the global Christian economy…

* Regularly
* Proportionately
* Locally/globally
* spiritual parents/authorities/ workers (Rom. 15:27; Gal. 6:6; 3 Jn. 7,8)
* damaged, disenfranchised believers (Gal 6:10)

2. **Take direction from outside of yourself** (5-12)

 Leader’s mission passion

 *We are not managers but adventurers redeeming creation, enlarging the Garden of Eden.*

 Leader’s ministry directives

“We should not expect the Lord to open doors of greater ministry in time or eternity, if we have not entered doors he has already opened for us” (MacArthur 1984)

Leadership respect

* Deputies
* Personal convictions
* Hard-working servants
* Exemplary models

*Don’t look for easy; look for where you can be useful.*

3. **Take back the Body you are supposed to have** (13-24).

* *Wake up* spiritually and physically or sin will get the best of you.
* *Stand firm* in what you have settled to be true (1 Cor. 15:1, Jude 3).
* *Grow up* – in far too many churches the nursery isn’t where the babies are.
* *Choose* to be spiritually strong, otherwise you will lose to the power of your flesh.
* *Love* enough to confront – your mess and brokenness is wasting what you could have if you do life in community God’s way

The grace of Christ is with us; however flawed, we can become useful again – our failures in the past do not define our grace-driven potential for the future.