TODAY'S MESSAGE: "DISCOVERING MY PLACE IN KINGDOM SERVICE"

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

INTRODUCTION

 Pick me! What position do you want to play on the Team?

 Our fall sports season is exciting as teams compete for championships.

 Kingdom Teams—churches are planted and grow as they make disciples who follow Jesus.

1) BODY UNITY/DIVERSITY (V. 12-20)

- One Spirit baptizes all believers into One Body of Christ—the church (v. 13)
- One Body of Christ has many members each with a unique spiritual gift cluster "just as he wanted them to be." (v. 18)

 Purpose: to serve the Lord in his body-the church by advancing his kingdom by making disciples

2) BODY LIFE (V. 21-26)

- Working together as a TEAM means that we utilize each member with special care, respect, and honor. (v. 21-24)
- Each member has value, purpose, and a place to be loved as a member of God's kingdom team to use their spiritual gifts this involves the 36 one another commands in the New Testament—reciprocal living (v. 25-26)
- Purpose: Each member of the body of Christ was created and given spiritual gifts by the Spirit to live in unit as we care for one another.

3) REVIEW GOD'S PLAN (V. 27-31)

 Paul repeats the principle again about the diversity of gifts and leadership in the body of Christ—the church.

 There is diversity of spiritual gifts in the body as the Spirit distributes gifts according to his plan to equip and empower each disciple for service.

 Reflection: The reality check comes in the next chapter as Paul introduces "But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the more excellent way." (1 Cor. 12:31)



• Spiritual Gifts + Needs = Kingdom Service & Impact

Homework: Because of what I have learned, shared, and experienced this weekend, I will