

1 Corinthians 12:22

No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

I was in a Leadership class at church the other day, and I was reminded how those who serve and are seen as what the world would call, having a less significant roll in the church, are actually necessary and much needed.

Think of your foot for a minute. Most people walk around wearing shoes all day and their feet and toes are never seen by others or even yourself. Yet, does that make them insignificant or useless? No, not at all, because without the foot or toes, you couldn't walk. Sure there are false feet and legs, but it causes the whole body to now have to compensate for the absence of a real foot, when a false limb is being used. Whereas having real feet, the rest of the body can do what it's designed to do and not compensate for a missing or broken limb.

Yet how many feel like a foot, being hidden all the time, and no one ever sees what they do in the church or even outside of the church. But let me ask you one thing, just because your feet are covered with your shoes all day long, does that mean you don't care about your feet? Don't you trim your toenails and put foot cream on them or soak them in a warm bath to help them feel better, or take your shoes off after a long hard day at work and give your feet a message and a rest? You do because you actually love your feet and you are thankful for them.

God may have created you to be feet in the church, always covered, always out doing things that others do not see, yet God loves you as those feet that He created to be a part of the body of the church. He is thankful for you and the things you do, and will always take care of you because He knows what you do in the church, even those things that others can't see you doing, which are very important.

For me, I'm on the worship team at church and I help lead and coteach a men's weekly bible study at church, so I am on stage and out there for all to see. Yet I did not start out being on stage or even teaching the bible. I started out as an usher and in the parking lot ministry, and did it for years. Over time the Lord gave me the gift and ministry of teaching, and even though I have been a musician for years, I was not up on stage in the church until many years after serving in the church. It was all God's perfect timing and I needed to learn (as well as everyone else) to be a servant, and not seen by man, because if you are upfront at the beginning, it will cause you to stumble because you never learned how to serve without being seen by man.

So don't strive to be seen by man, or even to be accepted by man or get a pat on the back by man, rather seek to be pleasing to the Lord... and more so, just serve because you love the Lord and love serving others, even if they don't know you are serving them.

- † **Matthew 23:5** *But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments.*

- † **Matthew 6:5-6** *And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*