

Indispensable Group Members GroupWords

*The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!"
And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"
On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.*

— 1 Corinthians 12:21-22 —

Small Group leadership is an important piece of the Small Group puzzle. But it's not the only piece. Every member of the group is vital. The people who host the group, those who give rides, those who participate in the discussion asking questions and offering answers. God says they are all essential. Even if we have not yet seen how God is using or will use a person in our group, even if they have not seen God's purpose for them, still God makes no mistakes.

A read about a man who had an accident and broke his left hand. During a sleepless night he began to imagine a dialogue between his right and left hands:

The right hand said, *"Left hand, you are not really missed. Everybody's glad it was you that was injured and not me because you are not as important."*

The left hand asked, *"How are you superior to me?"*

The right hand replied, *"That's easy. My owner can't write a letter without me."*
The left hand responded, *"Yes, but who holds the paper when he writes?"*

Right hand: *"Who swings the hammer?"*
Left hand: *"Who holds the nail?"*

Right hand: *"Who cuts the board?"*
Left hand: *"Who holds it in place?"*

The left hand continued, *"You may be the one to shake hands but both of us give the hugs. When we consider the big picture, you can do very few things without me."*

Of course, this little story is based upon Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 12 where he says that even if the foot or the ear were to say they did not belong to the body, *"it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body"* (v. 15). On the contrary, the *"parts should have equal concern for each other"* (v. 25). Everyone is important. Everyone is needed. Everyone plays a significant and important role in the life of the group.

Remember Paul's warning. The very person that I feel is too *"weak"* to make a significant contribution is considered by God to be *"indispensable"* (v. 22). Our job to us to discover in each other those indispensable qualities. God sees them, but do we?

Because of a Cross,
Bob Chisholm