

05/17/10 - Body Building

RG170510

Donald used to sing a song about "building up the Temple of the Lord." Somehow he imagined a church building, but the building referred to is the universal church of Jesus Christ. Building the Church is what Paul was doing throughout his many missionary journeys.

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul encouraged them to accept the leadership roles that God assigned "so that the body of Christ may be built up". He then quickly includes everyone: "From Christ the whole body . . . grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work".

Paul came to the town of Ephesus from Corinth, where he had spent considerable time, bringing Priscilla and Aquila with him. Paul's ministry of "strengthening all the disciples" included teaching and training those like Priscilla and Aquila who could care for the less mature disciples. It also included correspondence, which lives on in the pages of Scripture. Paul told the Corinthians that they were God's temple. The Body of Christ relies upon her members to "strengthen all the disciples."

All Scripture quotations not otherwise designated are from the Holy Bible, New International Version(r) (NIV(r)). Copyright (c) 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Copyright (c) 2011 by WordAction Publishing Company. All rights reserved.