



# Bad Ideas for a Good Church

Lessons from 1 Corinthians



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Church**

**Bad Idea #1:  
The Church can  
be united  
around  
personalities**

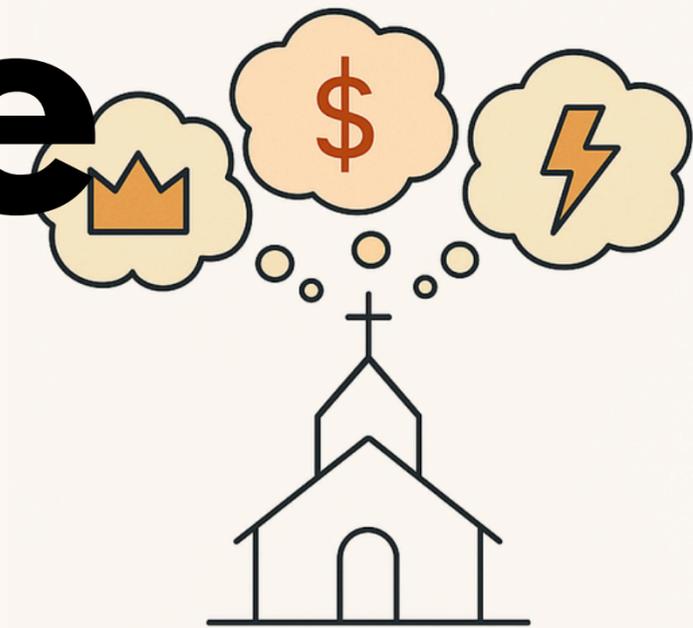


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# **Bad Idea #2: We Can Tolerate What Jesus Condemns**



**Bad Idea #3:  
Being free  
matters more  
than being  
faithful to one  
another**



# Bad Idea #4: Bigger, Louder, and More Impressive Is Better



**12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit.**

**[1 Corinthians 12:12-13 ESV]**



**If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.**

**[1 Corinthians 12:15 ESV]**



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**[1 Corinthians 12:15 ESV]**



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**If the whole body were an eye,  
where would be the sense of  
hearing? If the whole body were  
an ear, where would be the  
sense of smell?**

**[1 Corinthians 12:17 ESV]**



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**21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the**

**part that lacked it,**

**[1 Corinthians 12:21-24 ESV]**

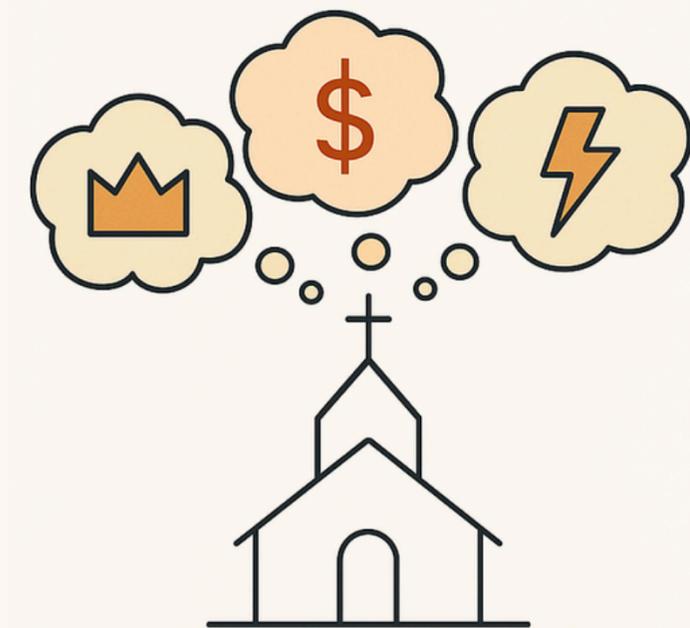


**25 that there may be no division  
in the body, but that the  
members may have the same  
care for one another. 26 If one  
member suffers, all suffer  
together; if one member is  
honored, all rejoice together.**

**[1 Corinthians 12:25-26 ESV]**



**God does not  
measure  
importance the  
way we do**

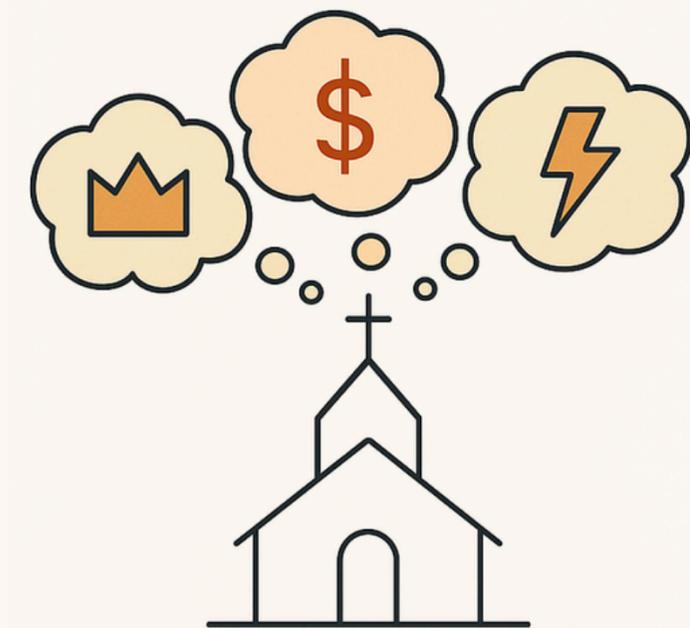


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**When  
impressiveness  
becomes the goal,  
unity becomes  
collateral damage**

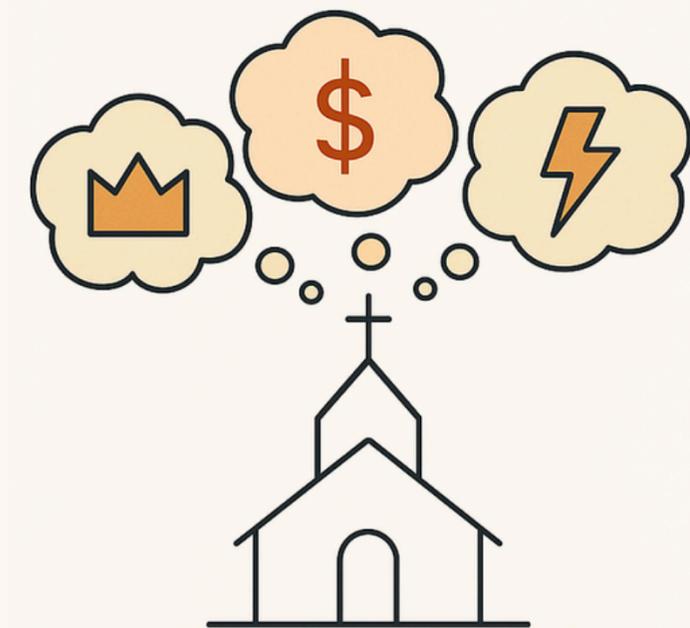


# The Spirit distributes gifts for service, not status



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# The Spirit distributes gifts for service, not status



**What do we do  
about it, as a  
church and  
individually?**



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