

Running The Blood...God Is Love Wednesday Word: July 20, 2016

Why do we go to church or synagogue? Why do we tell people about Jesus? Sure it's because that is what we are supposed to do but what is the real reason we do this? The ultimate answer to these questions should be because we love the Lord and His other children. It took me a while to come to this revelation myself. God, in His infinite love and wisdom, reminded me of something He showed me years ago that I will now share with you.

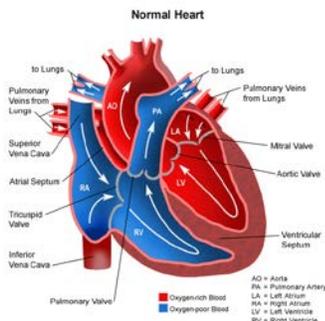
To illustrate this point to me, God used human anatomy because I love studying the human body and psyche. Even if you are not a biology major, I believe these illustrations will help to bring some points into clarity. Before I show the pictures there are some Bible verses we need to remember:

1 John 4:8-11 - He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Romans 12:4-5 - For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

1 Corinthians 12:13-14, 26 - For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many...26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

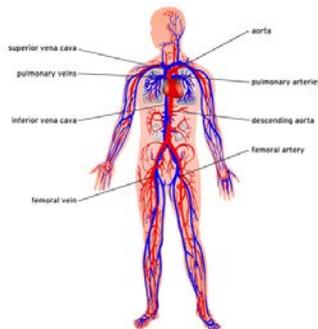
Now that we have those words in our hearts, let us look at the heart. (This picture is from heart.phoenixchildrens.org)



The heart is responsible for not only delivering oxygen and nutrient rich blood to the entire body but also receiving depleted blood from the body. If anything goes wrong with the heart (our view of our Lord and each other), the entire body suffers in various ways. The first place the heart delivers and

receives blood is to and from the lungs. When the heart receives the depleted blood from the body it immediately sends this blood to the lungs to be oxygenated. Then the heart receives the oxygenated blood from the lungs and prepares to send it to the rest of the body. There are four chambers of the heart: 1) Right Atrium-receives depleted blood from the body and pumps blood to the Right Ventricle; 2) Right Ventricle-sends blood to the lungs to be oxygenated (replenished); 3) Left Atrium-receives oxygen and nutrient rich blood from the lungs and pumps it to the Left Ventricle; 4) Left Ventricle-(responsible for our blood pressure and is the strongest chamber) pumps the oxygen and nutrient rich blood to the rest of the body (<http://www.webmd.com/heart/picture-of-the-heart>). The brain operates every function within the body including the heart. God The Father is like the brain; God The Son-Jesus Christ is like the heart; God The Spirit-Holy Spirit is like the lungs; we are The Body.

What am I submitting? The Body has an important role to play in this process of what I am calling "running the blood". If the blood doesn't come back to the heart it will not be able to be replenished. If it is not replenished, The Body suffers. I pray this is making sense to even just one person. Here is one more picture which will illustrate the complexity yet unity of the blood flowing through the body. (This picture is from mind42.com)



Let us look at this as how we are to function spiritually with one another. If any function of the circulatory system is hindered in any way, the whole process suffers and illness or even death can occur within the body. Let us "run" to the heart (Jesus Christ) by the lungs (Holy Spirit) to be replenished, revived, and reformed to

have the entire Body function as it was designed to. Let us "Run The Blood", because God is love, to the entire body including the cells (people) that are currently depleted and on the verge of dying (spiritually).

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