

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ 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!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Jun 10, 2018: Remembering Who We Are

Human Being or Human Doing?

When someone asks you “what do you do,” how do you respond? What does it mean to be asked that? How does it make you feel?

Have you ever felt that a relationship you had was completely based on a role, function, or usefulness to another person?

Can you think of a time when you had a role that come to an end (parenting, work, volunteer, etc.)? What happened to the relationships connected to it?

A Body of Many Parts

12-13 – Think of the various backgrounds that believers in Christ can have. What does it mean that they are parts of His Body?

14-20 – Why is diversity in the Body a good thing? Why is every unique part important?

Have you ever felt pressure to conform to be like a certain person, rather than Christ?

21-26 – Why is unity so essential? Why might some parts prefer to be on their own? What are they missing?

Designed to do Christ’s Work

What problems and frustrations come from a Church needing to be united, but diverse?

Why would God design the Church that way? What work did Christ accomplish, that the Church is called to continue? (1 John 3:16, 4:9-11, John 13:34-35, 17:20-23)

Being the Body

Think of the unique parts of our church – what are you thankful for, that others have done?

What unique abilities, experiences, and passions has God given you? Do you see a need in the church that you can address?