



# The Church, His Body

This past Sunday Pastor John preached a message on how we, as the church, form the body of Christ. Specifically he honed in on the truth of how none of us have all the gifts and none of us have none of the gifts. In other words, each of us plays a vital role in the body of Christ. This week's lesson will focus on helping people see their role in the larger body of Christ.

## FAMILY TIME

Take some time to share prayer requests and praise reports with each other and encourage folks to keep praying for each other's prayer requests throughout the week and to believe that these will become future praise reports.

Let's also keep praying for the refugees and for our summer trips to Berlin. Let's pray specifically for fundraising, as teams only have a month left to raise support!

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12

We will be studying a passage in which Paul explains how the diversity in a body is actually what allows the body to function. (See attached for a printout of the passage)

Introduction Question: What is your favorite part of the body and why?

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What are the various parts of a body?
- What does Paul explain is the role of diversity in the body?
- What does Paul say regarding the seemingly "weaker" parts (v. 22-23)?
- What happens if one part of the body suffers?

Key Reflection Questions (it may help to compile answers together on a whiteboard, large sheet of paper, or computer document):

- What does it mean for us to be a part of the body of this lifegroup? People can answer generally or personally.
- What does it mean for us to be a part of the body of this church? People can answer generally or personally.

Application Question: What can I do to actively participate in the body of my lifegroup and church?

Practical Applications (Here is a chance to throw out possible ways for folks to actively be a part of the body of lifegroup and church; feel free to add needs and roles you know of, but do also consider suggesting ways people can serve the larger church—specifically in Kingdom Kids, Sunday Hospitality, and worship team—especially as such a large number of our people will be heading out to missions this summer):

- Commit to praying for and supporting others in this lifegroup;
- Sign up to bring dinner, lead worship, or help facilitate for lifegroup;
- Cover for someone in your lifegroup that is going on a mission trip this summer and will miss a Kingdom Kids slot;
- Join the Kingdom Kids team, which is in need of both main teachers and helpers as our children's ministry continues to grow;
- Volunteer as a lifegroup for an extra set-up/takedown slot on our Sunday Hospitality team.

Small Group: Break up into groups of 3-4 to share what we learned about being a part of the body and how we plan on actively participate in this body. Then take time to pray and commission each other and to hold each other accountable.

## **1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-26 – Unity and Diversity in the Body**

**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.