

BELONGING TO THE BODY

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

The church is one body with many parts, each member essential to the whole. We are called to care for one another, recognizing that when one part suffers, we all suffer, and when one part rejoices, we all rejoice. True Christian unity is not uniformity, but a deep, mutual care where every person, regardless of their role, is valued and supported in love.

☐ **Monday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14.**

Why do you think Paul uses the metaphor of the body instead of something else, like a building or a family tree? How does knowing we are all part of the same body in Christ affect the way you see the church?

☐ **Tuesday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-17.**

What part of the body do you most identify with today? What do you see as your gifts? Why do you think Paul insists that *every* part is needed?

☐ **Wednesday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:18-20.**

How does knowing you are *needed* change the way you see your own life of faith? If the body is incomplete without you, what does that say about your place in God's plan?

☐ **Thursday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-25.**

When have you felt like your role or gifts in the body of Christ weren't important? How does this passage challenge the idea that some gifts or roles are "more important" than others?

☐ **Friday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:26.**

Where do you see examples of "suffering with" or "rejoicing with" others in your community (NIV)? Who might need encouragement from you this week?

☐ **Saturday: Read Ephesians 4:1-16.**

How can your gifts help strengthen the church toward unity and maturity? Where could you use your gift to build up someone this week?

We are called to care for each other, employing our gifts and sharing in both joy and suffering as one unified body. True belonging in the Body of Christ isn't passive—it's active. We care for each other, make room for difference, and serve in love.

Everyone's gifts and participation matter in God's family!