



The Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

1 Corinthians 12:12 (ESV) 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. ¹³For 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. ¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If 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. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If 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? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹The 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.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and 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, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

1. **UNITY.** A local congregation, while having many members, is really one body 12:12-13
2. **DIVERSITY.** The members of that one body have a variety of different gifts and functions 12:14

3. **VALUE.** Every single member is important and what each contributes to the overall health of the body is vital 12:15-20
4. **INTERDEPENDENCE.** Each member needs all the other members 12:21
5. **EQUAL HONOR.** No member is inferior or superior to any other member, regardless of relative visibility 12:22-27
6. **SOVEREIGNTY.** God has gifted members as He sees fit, with no one possessing all the gifts 12:28-30
7. **LOVE.** Members should seek the highest good of the entire church, rather than elevating themselves 12:31

CLOSED CIRCUIT FOR NEW LIFE CHURCH:

1. Have you been given the gift of Helps?
2. Have you been given the gift of Administration/Leadership?
3. Whatever your gift(s), where are you using them to serve the Body of Christ?
4. We ALL have a part in maintaining the health of this body of believers!

Bible Reading Plan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Zech.13	<input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: Zech. 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: Mal. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: Mal. 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: Mal. 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: Mal. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: John 1		<input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: John 2