



**The Week of March 7, 2021
1 Corinthians 12
Doing My Part in the Body
Conversation Guide**

This Week's Take-Aways

- **About the Church:** (Ephesians 4:11-16) The church is a body of baptized believers who have been bought by the blood of Christ and are bound together by the Holy Spirit. The church is the body of Christ and exists to carry out His purposes on the earth.

Intro Questions

- Someone Google how many bones, systems and organs the human body has and share with the group.
- What do you normally take for granted that is really amazing about your body?
- Have you had an injury or condition that has made you more aware of a more obscure part of your body? (Like stubbing your toe, or open heart surgery!)

Doing My Part in the Body

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:14

Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different ministries, but the same Lord. And there are different activities, but the same God works all of them in each person.

- From the passage fill in the blanks:
 1. Different _____ from the same _____
 2. Different _____ from the same _____
 3. Different _____ from the same _____
- What does that tell you about the nature of the church?
- What does that tell you about the nature of the Trinity?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good: to one is given a message of wisdom through the Spirit, to another, a message of knowledge by the same Spirit, to another, faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another, the performing of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, distinguishing between spirits, to another, different kinds of tongues, to another, interpretation of tongues. One and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as he wills.

- The gifts given by the Spirit are for what purpose?
- What gifts are listed in this section?
- Who chooses what gifts we get?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

For just as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body – so also is Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free – and we were all given one Spirit to drink. Indeed, the body is not one part but many.

- Why is the body used by Paul to describe the church family?
- How miraculous is it that the Holy Spirit can unite a very diverse group of people into one cohesive unit?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-16

If the foot should say, "Because I'm not a hand, I don't belong to the body," it is not for that reason any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I'm not an eye, I don't belong to the body," it is not for that reason any less a part of the body.

- Does the Spirit see one part more than another?
- Do you think feelings of superiority or inferiority were causing trouble in the Corinthian church?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:17-20

If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God has arranged each one of the parts in the body just as he wanted. And if they were all the same part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

- Have fun and talk about what it would be like if you were just one body part!
- God created all body parts with a purpose. How do they function together for a healthy body?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-23

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" Or again, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that are weaker are indispensable. And those parts of the body that we consider less honorable, we clothe these with greater honor, and our unrespectable parts are treated with greater respect,...

- Are the members of body of Christ independent or interdependent?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:24-26

...which our respectable parts do not need. Instead, God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the less honorable, so that there would be no division in the body, but that the members would have the same concern for each other. So if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

- Have fun and talk about what it would be like if you were just one body part!
- What are the actions and attitudes that reveal the body of Christ is functioning in a healthy manner?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-30

Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, next miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, leading, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all do miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

- What gifts are listed in this section?
- How is Paul emphasizing how we should recognize the value of others and use our variety of gifts to unify the church?

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:2

But desire the greater gifts. And I will show you an even better way.

If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

- How does love give life to the body of Christ, like blood does for the human body?
- According to verse 2, Gifts minus Love = _____

Next Steps

- Read this statement from Pastor David:
 - *“So it doesn’t matter your history, your race, whether your male or female, if you’re in the church you’re there because of the work of the Spirit of God. You’re not there because you’re the most qualified. You’re not there because of anything you’ve done. You’re there because you’ve accepted Christ and in turn, you’ve been filled by the Holy Spirit. And as a person who has been saved by Christ and filled with the Spirit of God, you’re now a part of the church. Being in a church is an outcome, not a cause. We’re not in Christ because we’re in church. We’re in church because we’re in Christ. So with all of our diversity, we come into the church because we’re all in Christ. So it’s Christ that unifies us. The gospel is the glue that binds us together. And once in the church, we’re to function in unity with one another in much the same way that the human body works together.”*
 - What are the next steps you need to take to fully connect and function in the body?
- [Click here](#) or visit icelebration.org/adult-groups to take a free Spiritual Gifts Test.

