

THE CHURCH: THE BODY

Membership Part 4—Functioning in unity together | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
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Bride—an intimate relationship with Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33)

Pillar—built on truth (1 Timothy 3:15)

Flock—led by shepherds (Acts 20:28)

Body—functioning in unity together (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

Family—sharing the same priorities (Ephesians 2:19)

Romans 12:5 So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

1. You are part of something _____ v12, 14, 20, 27

v12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

v14 For the body is not one member, but many.

v20 But now there are many members, but one body.

v27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

2. Your identity is _____ v13

v13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

3. You are intentionally _____ v15-19

v15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.¹⁶ And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?¹⁸ But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.¹⁹ If they were all one member, where would the body be?

4. You are divinely _____ v21-24

v21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."²² On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;²³ and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,²⁴ whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,

5. We are _____ v25-27

v25 so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.²⁷ Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

KEYS TO LIFE IN THE BODY:

- _____ surrender

John 3:3 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.

- _____ faithfully

Hebrews 10:24-25 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

- _____ actively

Ephesians 4:11-12,16 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.... ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

- _____ your gifts

1 Peter 4:10-11 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

SERVE WIDELY

SEEK AFFIRMATION

EVALUATE FRUITFULNESS

EXPERIENCE JOY

- _____ discipleship

Titus 2:4-5 Older women likewise are to...encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

- _____ in training

2 Timothy 2:2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

- _____ nuts!

Philippians 3:14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

1 Thessalonians 4:1 Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus...that you excel still more.



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