



Talk it Over

PASTOR LYLE – DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY – CHURCH I – 10/19-20/24

KEY SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NLT)

1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.
2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.
3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

1 Corinthians 12:14-21 (NLT)

14 Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part.
15 If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body.
16 And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body?
17 If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?
18 But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it.
19 How strange a body would be if it had only one part!
20 Yes, there are many parts, but only one body.

START TALKING

Pastor Lyle opened with an illustration of a pastor asking a couple how their advice for staying together for 50 years.

What do you think they listed as secrets to their longevity?

The point of the pastor's question was to take the advice and ask the couple if they were applying their advice to the church.

Rehearse the answers to the marriage secrets and talk through which ones fit in the context of the community of believers.

START DISCUSSING

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-21

PARTS OF THE WHOLE?

Count the number of times the passage refers to a body part.

Count the number of times the passage refers to the whole body.

In seven verses how many words are devoted to the idea of parts and body? (add the two numbers together)

Paul is obviously going to great lengths to show the importance of each part of the body to the whole body. Interestingly, he is literally talking about the human body, but he knows we will get the point that ultimately he is addressing the church body.

What is the point of v14? And why is it important that we get it?

What is the excuse of vv 15-16? Why would someone think they are not part of the body because they are not the same as someone else.

Verse 17-30 is such an important verse for us to understand.

Why do we need different kind of "parts" in the church body?

Discuss how different kinds of gifts and abilities are important for the church to function and even flourish? Be sure to think beyond the church property and Sunday.

Verse 18 is the key. **Who decides what parts the body needs and where to place them? How does this emphasize the importance of each part of the body.**

Read Ephesians 4:1-3

Pastor Lyle gave titles to the different kinds of people necessary for the unity of the church. **Discuss each title.**

Privately ask yourself if these titles describe you?

In not how can you change to be one who "makes every effort to keep the church united?"

- ENCOURAGERS
- GRACE GIVERS
- DIFFERENCE OVERLOOKERS
- CONFLICT RESOLVERS

