

SESSION 4: Beyond the Core

Opening Question

What's one experience you've had in a large group that made you feel part of something bigger than yourself?

Watch Lesson

Play video lesson for the group.

Scripture Reading

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12–27 aloud together.

Observation Questions

- 1. How does Paul describe the relationship between parts of the body?
- 2. What examples does he give of different body parts serving different functions?
- 3. How does Paul say God arranges each part of the body?
- 4. What happens if one part suffers or is honored?
- 5. How does Paul use the metaphor of the body to describe community?

Interpretation Questions

- 1. Why does Paul emphasize interdependence rather than independence?
- 2. How does this passage challenge our tendency to only rely on our Core 3?
- 3. What does it teach about recognizing and valuing different gifts in the group?
- 4. Why is suffering or honor of one part significant for the whole body?
- 5. How does this metaphor reflect God's design for both small and large community gatherings?

Application Questions

1. What are your spiritual gifts, and how can you use them in the larger church or small group?

If you're curious about your spiritual gifts and want to learn more about how God has designed and equipped you, we now have a comprehensive personal assessment on the church website (https://columbuse.church/get-equipped). You can scan this QR code to be taken directly to the assessment.



- 2. Who in your church or community might need your support this week?
- 3. How can you balance intimacy with Core 3 relationships and engagement with the broader body?
- 4. What's one way you can encourage or serve someone outside your usual circle?
- 5. How does being part of a larger group strengthen your faith?

Further Study Passages:

- Romans 12:4–8 Diversity of gifts in the body
- Hebrews 10:24–25 Encouraging one another
- Ephesians 4:11–16 Growth of the body through every member
- 1 Peter 4:10–11 Serving with spiritual gifts
- Colossians 3:16 Teaching and admonishing one another in wisdom

Challenge of the Week:

Begin to pray and identify ways to connect with other believers beyond your Core 3. This can include the small group you're currently in or a new group of believers that you can consistently meet with after completing this series.

Prayer Guide:

- Pray for awareness of others' needs and opportunities to apply your gifts to help them.
- Ask God to help you engage faithfully with both Core 3 and broader community.