

**LIFE IN COMMUNITY, PART 2:  
“COMMUNITY AT THE TABLE”**

Pastor Luke Uran – September 15, 2019

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## **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)**

4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

### **1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (NIV)**

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

15 Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

### **Quote 1 from *Life in Community* by Dustin Willis**

“The human body doesn’t function separately six days a week and then come together on Sunday to see how the other parts did all week. The body is meant to be constantly connected, working together to achieve optimal performance. I love what C. S. Lewis says about this concept: ‘Christianity thinks of human individuals not as mere members of a group or items in a list, but as organs in a body – different from one another and each contributing what no other could.’”

### **Community at the table:**

#### **1) Community is the definitive test.**

What do you see in me that I don’t see in myself?

#### **2) Community is more than on Sunday.**

### **Quote 2 from *Life in Community* by Dustin Willis**

“These types of gatherings are where the body celebrates all that God has done in and through them, and is then equipped to go out as the body to do the work of ministry. As Paul suggests, when one part of the body hurts, we hurt with it. Likewise, when a part of the body has victory, we share in the win. The church is the body when it gathers in worship and when it scatters in mission.”

#### **3) Bring your best to the table.**

### **1 Peter 4:10**

10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

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## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Why do we tend to think that our gifts, and/or our passions are better than that of the person to our left or to our right?**

**How would your life group answer this question, “What do you see in me that I don’t see in myself?”**

**What spiritual gifts or passions have I been given?**

**In what ways have they been affirmed by my community?**

**Where and how are you currently using your gifts?**

**Take some time as a table to affirm what gifts you see in the others in your group.**