

1 CORINTHIANS

LEARNING TO LIVE BY THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

"The Body of Christ"

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

4 Characteristics to a healthy body of Christ

1. Unity: All believers belong to the body of Christ—the Church.
2. Purpose: Diversity and unity of spiritual gifts in the church work together just like a body.

“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; or ministry, *let us use it in our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:3-8

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.” Ephesians 4:11-16

REMEMBER—*everybody has something; but nobody has everything.*



4 Characteristics to a healthy body of Christ

1. Unity: All believers belong to the body of Christ—the Church.
2. Purpose: Diversity and unity of spiritual gifts in the church work together just like a body.
3. Dependence: Believers in the body of Christ need one another—especially those whose service is not seen.
4. Order: God arranges the gifts and callings of the body of Christ according to His pleasure.



