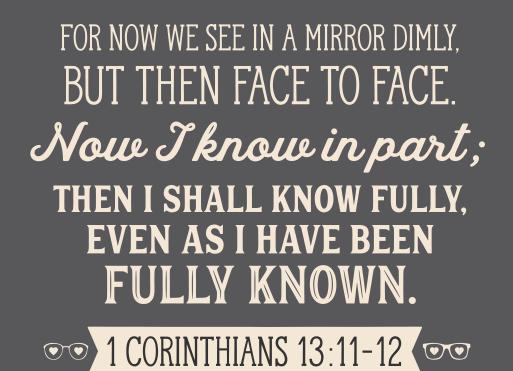


When T was a child, I SPOKE LIKE A CHILD, I THOUGHT LIKE A CHILD, I REASONED LIKE A CHILD. **WHEN I BECAME A MAN, I GAVE UP CHILDISH WAYS.**



To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.





GOSPEL GLASSES HELP US SEE ...

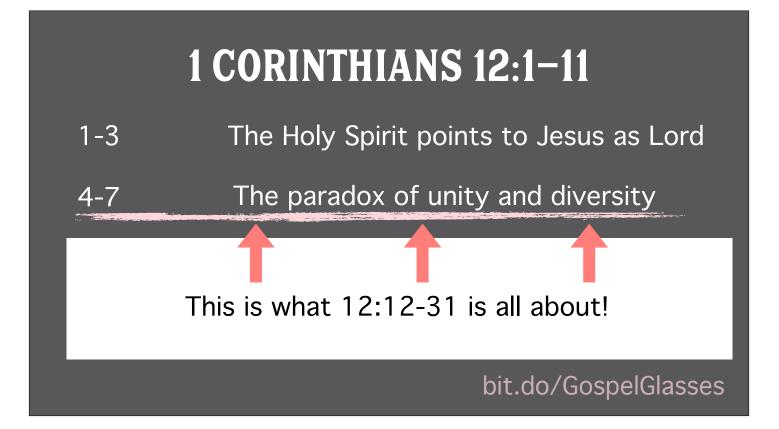
UNITY AND DIVERSITY ARE NOT AT ODDS WITH ONE ANOTHER IN THE CHURCH.

GOD USES THEM TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN THE COMMUNITY AND DISPLAY HIMSELF.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

1-3	The Holy Spirit points to Jesus as Lord
4-7	The paradox of unity and diversity
	8-10 List of spiritual gifts
11	The work of the Holy Spirit

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12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

- 12-13 Diversity in function. Unity in source.
- 14-24a Observations of the human body
- 24b-31 The church as a body

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11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

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JOHN 7:37-39

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

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What kind of body member are you?

What does your attitude about the church body reveal about it's place in your life? What do your actions reveal?

What's been your experience in comparing yourself to others in church? How can you honored God in that?

Which of the following needed highlighting in your life today?

