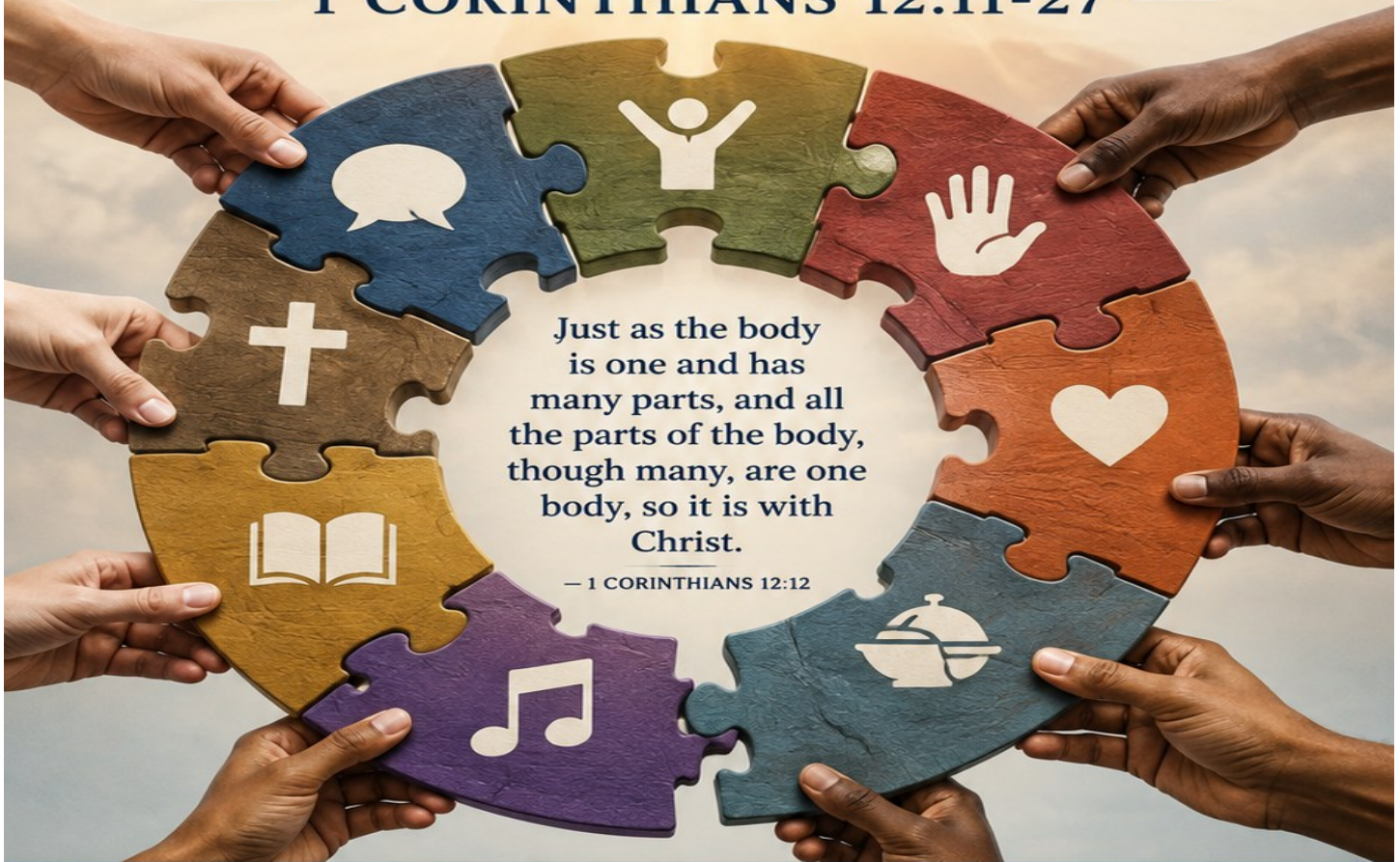


We All **NEED** *Each Other*

— 1 CORINTHIANS 12:11-27 —



Just as the body
is one and has
many parts, and all
the parts of the body,
though many, are one
body, so it is with
Christ.

— 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12

Sermon by Dr. Hampton Drum

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

We All Need Each Other

I Corinthians 12:11-27

Introduction:

“The claims of Christ are always on trial, and we remain under oath! We are His witnesses for truth.”
- Max Lucado

I. We need each other because of the connection of the Spirit. (V. 12-14)

A. We are all connected to Christ through the Spirit.

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.
1 Corinthians 12:12

B. We are all connected to the community through the Spirit.

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. (V. 14) For the body is not one member, but many.
1 Corinthians 12:13-14

*“A body without a spirit is a corpse. A spirit without a body is a ghost.
But a spirit in a body is a living organism.”*
- Adrian Rogers

Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: (V. 6) That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 15:5-6

II. We need each other because of the commonality of our service. (V. 15-22)

A. There is the necessity of individuality in our combined service.

If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? (V. 16) And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? (V. 17) If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?
1 Corinthians 12:15

Truths About the Body of Christ

- ◆ Each member has been designed to be indispensable for the function of the body.
- ◆ Comparison among the members of the body is irrelevant, because each of us functions differently for the body's success.
- ◆ The necessity of one member does not negate the necessity of the other members.

B. There is the necessity of our initiative in our combined service.

But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. (V. 19) And if they were all one member, where were the body? (V. 20) But now are they many members, yet but one body. (V. 21) And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. (V. 22) Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:
1 Corinthians 12:18-22

The Lord Has Designed the Body

- ♦ The Lord has designed and designated each member to divinely function in the body.
- ♦ The members of the body are designed to cooperate with each other to sustain a healthy thriving body.
- ♦ The members of the body are designed to compensate for each other when a crisis occurs.
- ♦ The members of the body automatically respond to any part of the body that is attacked or injured.

III. We need each other because of the communion of our service. (V. 23-27)

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.
Philippians 2:3

“Jesus doesn’t just heal the sick, He invites us to be a part of the miracle.”
- Max Lucado

A. We commune together in a spirit of affirmation.

And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. (V. 24) For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: (V. 25) That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.
1 Corinthians 12:23-25

- ♦ We are to affirm each other because the work of Christ needs a face.
- ♦ Each face communicates to a different circle of influence.
- ♦ God often uses individual persons who are a complete surprise to us.

B. We commune together in a spirit of affection.

And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. (V. 27) Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.
1 Corinthians 12:26-27

Community Is God’s Answer for A Person’s Needs

- ♦ Community is God’s answer to loneliness.

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

- ♦ Community is God's answer to fatigue.

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. (V. 2) Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. Galatians 6:1-2

- ♦ Community is God's answer to defeat.

For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Ecclesiastes 4:10

- ♦ Community is God's answer to despair.

Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Romans 12:15

- ♦ Community is God's answer to fear.

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. (V. 7) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:6-7