## Next Steps:

Believe It! What does God's Word Teach Me?

Trust It! What does God's Word Promise Me?

Obey It! What does God's Word Require of Me?

**Get Connected.** Share Your Answers with at least two others.

## **Prayer of Dedication**

Heavenly Father, according to your infinite wisdom and sovereign purpose you have made us who are many, one body, the body of Christ by immersing us with one Spirit, the Spirit of Christ.

Keep me from arrogance that I might not elevate myself above some or diminish the value of others. Keep me from independence. Teach me to serve my brother and sister in love, knowing that when one part suffers, we all suffer; and when one part is honored, we all rejoice together.

I desire to faithfully exercise your gifts of grace in caring for others, knowing that You have gifted and placed each of us in this body of believers for the good of all and glory of Christ. Amen.

## **Life Is Better Together**

Celebrating and Anticipating 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 September 7, 2025

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. 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. 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, <sup>23</sup> 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, <sup>24</sup> which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> 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.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

## **Sermon Proposition**

Stay Connected. Life Is Better Together

| The Necessity of Relationships  Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.  1 Corinthians 12:27 (ESV) | The Benefits of Relationships  Mutual Ministry  |
|---|---|
|   | Spiritual Growth  |
|   | Everlasting Joy   |
| The Responsibility for Relationships Choose Relationships   | The Power of Relationships  Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their laborA cord of three strands is not quickly broken.  Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NIV) |
| Fight for Relationships   | Applied to Prayer Partnerships<br>1 John 5:14-15  |
| Nurture Relationships   | Ephesians 3:20-21   |
|   | Get Connected. Link up with two others for the purpose of prayer.   |