

A Band of Misfits

1 Corinthians 12:1-27

**WE
ME**
DOING LIFE TOGETHER



A silhouette of a family of six people (two adults and four children) standing in a line, facing a large, glowing cross. The scene is set against a bright, hazy background, possibly a sunrise or sunset, with the light emanating from behind the cross. The family members have their arms raised in prayer or worship. The overall mood is spiritual and reverent.

If God is my Father, then *this* is my family!



The challenge is not “Am I going to be a part of a community of faith?” but ...
“**How** am I going to live in *this* community of faith?”

How wonderful, how beautiful,
when brothers and sisters get along!
It's like costly anointing oil
flowing down head and beard,
flowing down Aaron's beard,
flowing down the collar of his priestly robes.
It's like the dew on Mount Hermon
flowing down the slopes of Zion.
Yes, that's where God commands the blessing,
ordains eternal life.

– *Psalm 133 (The Message)*

Unity is a bringing together of people, with different perspectives and preferences, who through their faith in Jesus are united as a family, who love and serve each other and who have the same conviction about going into all the world and making disciples.

1 Corinthians 12:1-27

Paul's view of a Unified Community



1. All gifts descend from one and the same Spirit.

2. There is a diversity of gifts.

3. Gifts are given to “profit withal”, for the common good of service to the Body.



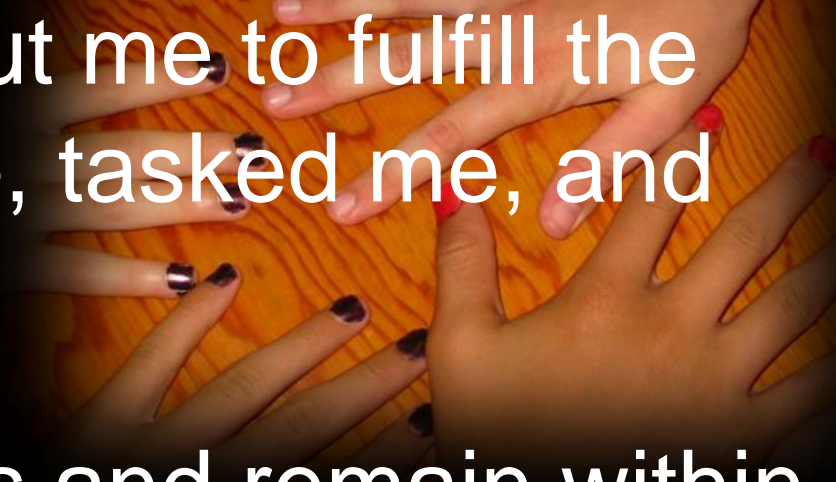
One Body, Many Members

1. Do Not: Undervalue my place in the Community – individual ownership and contribution

2. Do Not: Overvalue my contribution to the Community – mutual dependence

3. Do Not: Become dismissive of the *need of others* within the Community – mutual respect and care



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- 1.** Am I in the place that God has put me to fulfill the function that God has given me, tasked me, and gifted me for?
 - 2.** Can I acknowledge my limitations and remain within that limitation with joy and thanksgiving?
 - 3.** Can I acknowledge and appreciate the roles God has assigned to others in their service within the Body of Christ?

**We need each other to walk out
this life with Christ.**



Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12



Life Groups: Share • Study • Support • Serve

*Connecting the unconnected to Jesus Christ
and together becoming fully devoted to Him.*

*“There can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience
in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life, apart
from an immersion in, and embrace of, community. I am
not myself by myself.” – Eugene Peterson*