

NOW YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 12:1–31

Key Verse: 12:27

1. In verse 1, note how Paul comes back to the topics of “gifts” (1:4–7; 7:7) and being “spiritual” (2:13–15). Of what does he remind the Corinthians (2–3), and how does this emphasize the humility, faith and unity they need?
2. In verses 4–6, how does Paul describe both their diversity and their unity? What is the basic purpose of God’s gifts (7)? What specific gifts does Paul mention, how is the Spirit involved (8–11), and what should we learn here?
3. How does the metaphor of the body of Christ help us see ourselves and our church (12–13)? How do parts of a body help us understand our unique differences (14–20)? Our interdependence (21)? What should our goal be (22–26)? What truth should we hold on to (27), and why is this so important?
4. How does Paul describe the various spiritual gifts in Christ’s body (28–30)? Which ones does he tell us to “earnestly desire” (31a), and why?
5. What can we learn in this chapter about church and finding our place in it? How can we recognize our spiritual gifts, and how should we be using them?