

# Relationships Matter

GOD'S DESIRE FOR A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

Unity in The Body



Part of the 'Growing Together'  
Discipleship Stream

Solihull  
Christian  
Fellowship



# Questions to Ponder

- What lies have I believed about my place in the body?
- Do I know my gifting (remember you are a son/daughter first)
- Do I covet another's gift?
- Have I been hurt by others?
- Do I need healing?



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**1st Corinthians 12:12** - For as the body is one and has mAny members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. <sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> For in fact the body is not one member but many.

<sup>15</sup> If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?



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<sup>18</sup> But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. <sup>19</sup> And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

<sup>20</sup> But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> And 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.” <sup>22</sup> No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. <sup>23</sup> And those members of the body which we think to be less honourable, on these we bestow greater honour; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, <sup>24</sup> but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honour to that part which lacks it,



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<sup>25</sup> that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honoured, all the members rejoice with it

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# 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians – Background

- Paul founded the church around AD50 at the end of his second mission
- At Ephesus around 180 miles from Corinth he receives news about the church
- Letters from the church asking questions
- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians as likely the second letter he sent to the church
- Deals with; jealousies, rivalries, marriage, eating foods, sexual immorality



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# 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians – Chapters 12 -14

- Chapters 12-14 deals with general theme of Spirituality;
- Who is Spiritual
- Spiritual gifts
- Use of Tongues



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# Chapter 12:1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.



# 1 Corinthians 12:12 One Body, Many Parts

*<sup>12</sup> For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. <sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> For in fact the body is not one member but many.*

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Question: What would happen if the whole body was one and the same

Answer: You would no longer be a body

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# You are part of the body

- You are part of the body because you have embraced Christ
- There is only one body
- You are now free from needing to be something else
- Know that God has placed you where he wants you



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# What could keep me out of the body?

- Believing a lie - I am not needed
- What I have is not useful
- I don't think I have anything to give
- I need what others have



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