

We, The Body

I. Believers Make Up the Body of Christ

¹² 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. **1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (ESV)**

1. The physical body has many parts; the body of Christ has many parts.
2. Spiritual baptism occurs at salvation and unites us with Christ.

a. The idea of burial and resurrection

⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. **Romans 6:4 (ESV)**

b. The idea of washing

⁵ He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. **Titus 3:5 (ESV)**

II. Different Parts of the Body

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. **1 Corinthians 12:14-16 (ESV)**

1. We are all different parts, but all are significant.

B. Spiritual Gifts (Manifestation Gifts vs. Character Gifts)

1. Manifestation Gifts

- a. Supernatural demonstrations of the Spirit
- b. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to

another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apports to each one individually as he wills. **1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (ESV)**

2. Character Gifts

- a. Our ongoing role in how we function in day-to-day service.
- b. A lot of these gifts could've been exhibited our whole lives.

C. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 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. **1 Corinthians 12:17-20 (ESV)**

- 1. God chose the parts of the physical body to function a certain way, the same way in the body of Christ.
- a. ²⁰ But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" **Romans 9:20 (ESV)**

III. Christ is the Head

- A. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. **Colossians 1:18 (ESV)**