

# **We Are The Body Of Christ**

Brad McConnaughey // September 5, 2021

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**Big Idea: We are the body of Christ and each one of us is a separate yet interconnected and necessary part.**

## **1. Choose to Belong! (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 18)**

**We have been brought together by God himself!**

*“For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free...” (v. 13)*

*“But in fact God has arranged the parts of the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.” (v. 18)*

**A. There is a special sense of belonging.**

**B. There is a special sense of purpose and significance for our lives.**

## **2. Choose to Contribute! (1 Corinthians 12:14-20)**

**You are a necessary part of this church!**

**A. Discover your gifts and how God has uniquely shaped you.**

**God has gifted you and uniquely shaped you into the person you are today.**

*“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.” (v. 7)*

**Spiritual Gift - *What am I gifted to do?***

**Heart – *What do I love to do?***

Four clarifying questions to get to understand your heart:

- How can I use what I love to do to serve others in the church?
- What age or type of people do I love to work with most?
- What church issues, ministries or possible needs excite or concern me the most?
- If I knew I couldn't fail, what I would attempt to do for God with my life?  
**Abilities - *What natural talents and skills do I have?***

**Personality – *Where does my personality best suit me to serve?***

**Experiences – *What spiritual/painful/educational/ministry experiences have I had?***

**B. Jump in and use your gifts to serve others.**

**You play an essential role in the church.**

*“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”*

**1 Corinthians 12:27**

**3. Choose to Care! (1 Corinthians 12:21-27)**

**We are designed to be interdependent upon one another.**

*“But God has combined the members of the body...so that its parts should have equal concern for one another.” (vs. 24-25)*

**4. Choose to Follow!**

*“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith...Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you.” **Hebrews 13:7,17***