

The Body of Christ

† **1 Corinthians 12:12-13** *¹²Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.*

As followers of Christ, we are to be one body, made of many parts and those parts all contribute to the body. Regardless of our background, heritage, or personal preferences, we have the same Spirit within us.

† **1 Corinthians 12:18-20** *¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.*

Our bodies are special for many reasons because God placed the parts in the body. So it is with the Christian church, the body of Christ. God has designed his church on earth, using the clay pots of sinful human beings to serve the Gospel to other sinful human beings. That very sinfulness makes us all alike. Our lives of personal ministry lead us to seek opportunities for Christ-like interaction with those around us. We relate to other people with their pains, problems, fears and humanity. The myriad of believers on earth all serve the one Creator.

† **1 Corinthians 12:25-26** *²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*

We need each other. We have equal concern for each other. We are all part of the body of Christ. As we live for Christ, we live for rest of the body of Christ, finding ways to help others on the way, and seeking to bring more to the knowledge of the truth. Live in him, with him, for him.

Your life is not your own. Your life is your personal ministry to God.