

Grow in Your Church (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

Goals 2013 – Part 2

Life Church St. Louis – January 13, 2013

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1. The church _____ has many parts

1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV) The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

1A. _____ places you into a church body

1 Corinthians 12:13 (NIV) For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

1B. The church body _____ with different parts

1 Corinthians 12:14 (NIV) Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.

2. Each believer is a _____ created part of their church body

1 Corinthians 12:18 (NIV) But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

2A. You can't _____ what part you are

1 Corinthians 12:15-16 (NIV) If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.

2B. Each _____ part is necessary for the church body

1 Corinthians 12:17 (NIV) 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?

3. Each believer _____ the other parts

1 Corinthians 12:21 (NIV) The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

3A. _____ part is indispensable

1 Corinthians 12:22 (NIV) On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

3B. God has created the church body to _____ together

1 Corinthians 12:24b-25 (NIV) But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

Grow in Your Church (1 Cor. 12:12-27) Study Guide

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Intro. What is your definition of a church? Do you think your definition is shared by most people today? Why or why not?

What is God's definition of the church (1 Corinthians 12:27)? How is God's definition different or similar to other definitions?

In what ways are people's ideas of church important?

1. Remember that the passage in 1 Corinthians 12 was written to and about the local church. What is the significance of the local church body being made of many parts, yet being one body (1 Corinthians 12:12)?

1A. Why is it important that God places a believer into a church body (1 Corinthians 12:13)?

2B. In what ways do the many parts of a church body enhance it's function (1 Corinthians 12:14)?

What similarities do you see in our society between commitment in marriage and commitment to a church body?

2. Describe the connection between God created a person with a unique divine design and placing them into a church body (1 Corinthians 12:18)?

2A. Why might some people not be happy with who God has made them and where He has placed them (1 Corinthians 12:15-16)? How should they respond?

2B. Why are all the different parts of the church body essential (1 Corinthians 12:17)?

How would you explain the importance of small groups to someone in context of the church body?

3. Why do people tend to have difficulty with people who are different than themselves (1 Corinthians 12:21)?

3A. How would you help someone who thought some parts of the church body were not important (1 Corinthians 12:11)?

3B. Why is unity and concern for others important for the proper function of the church body (1 Corinthians 12:24-25)?

How would you explain to someone the benefits of being part of a healthy church body, rather than simply being entertained at a church.