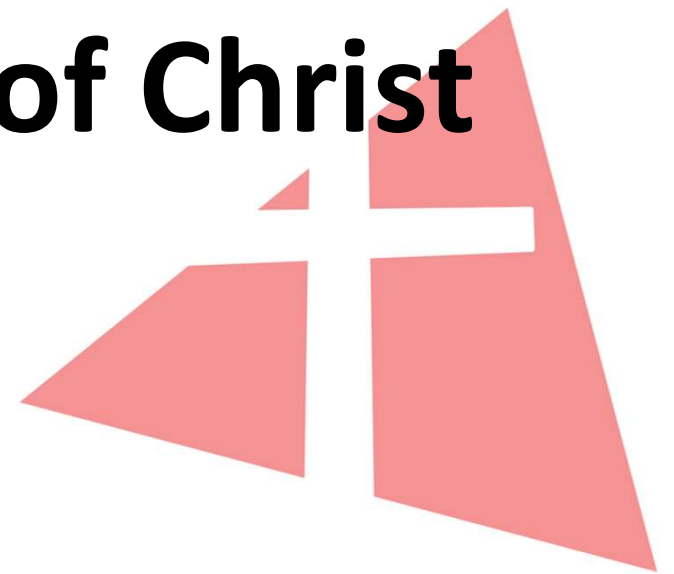


Community: The Body of Christ

November 03rd 2024



Our Series

- **Unity**
- **Use Your Talents**



Today's Focus

- **The Body of Christ**



Today's Passage

1 Corinthians 12:14-27 For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now has God set the members every one of them in the body, as it has pleased him. And if they were all one member, where would be the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of you: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our less respectable parts have greater respect. For our more respectable parts have no need: but God has arranged the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacked: That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

The Physical Body

- **All body parts have to work together**
- **The brain decides, directs and commands**



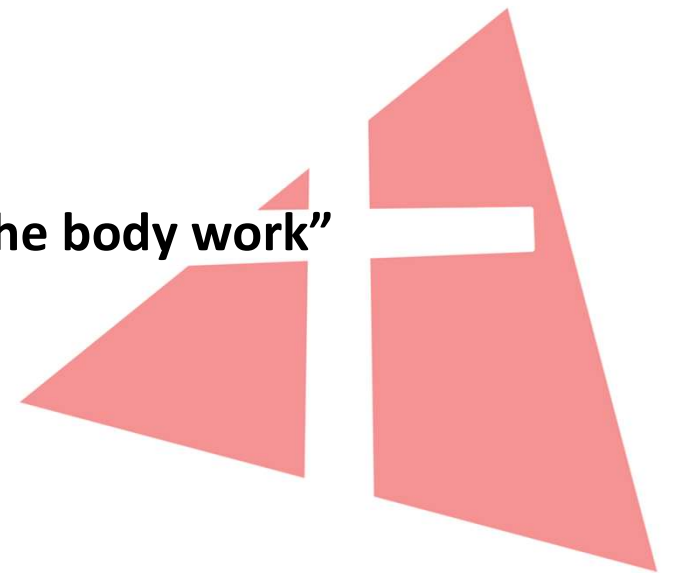
The Physical Body

- **The physical body has to be in unity**
 - Not uniformity



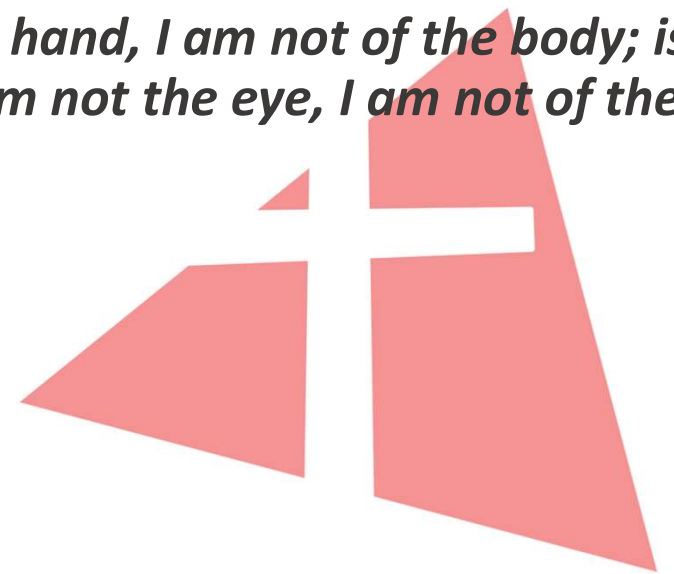
Back to the Analogy

- **Jesus is the one who gives us gifts**
 - And He commands us to use them
- **Jesus gives us a common vision**
- **Each one of us is to make that unique contribution to “make the body work”**



Being Part of the Body

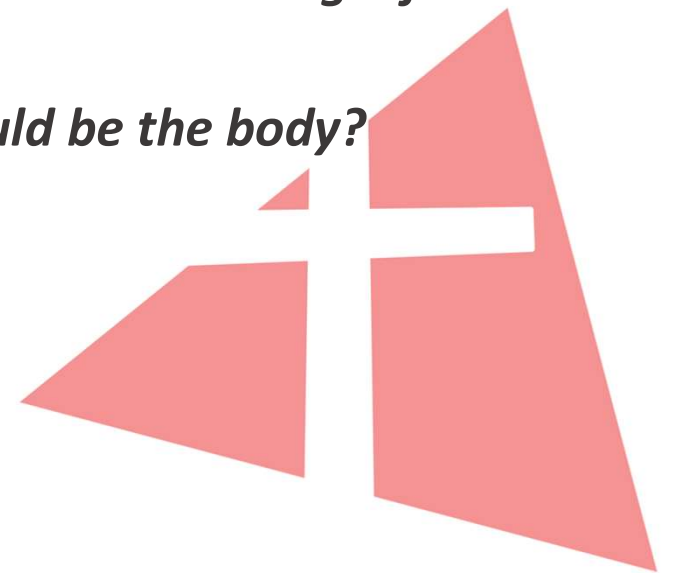
1 Corinthians 12:15-16 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?



Don't Compare

1 Corinthians 12:17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?

1 Corinthians 12:19 And if they were all one member, where would be the body?



The Church as One Body

- **Our unity comes when we all listen to and obey God**
- **God gives us**
 - A common Vision
 - A common goal
 - A common purpose
- **When we are united in our purpose, we can use our different gifts and abilities to work together towards that common goal**



Disunity

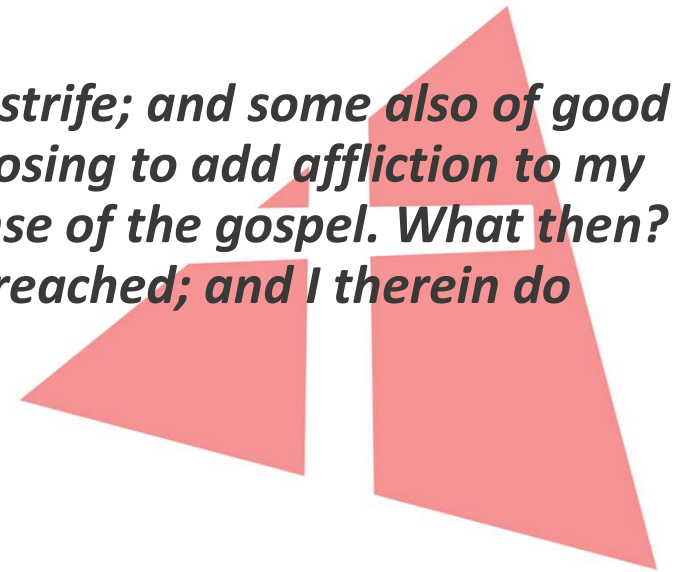
- **Disunity does not come from “doing different things”**
- **Disunity comes from having different goals and purposes**



Application

- The Local Church
- The Global Church

Philippians 1:15-18 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ out of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the gospel. What then? only that, every way, whether in pretense, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.



In Conclusion

- **We are the Body of Christ**
 - Each person in the local church
 - Each local church in the global church
- **The key to such unity is a common vision and purpose**

