

**Spiritual Gifts and the Body of Jesus Christ I Cor. 12:27**  
**Part 1: The Church Is The Body Of Christ**

What is the \_\_\_\_\_ for Hope? Why are we here and what do we want to accomplish?

**To \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus**

*“And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” John 17:3*

**To be His \_\_\_\_\_**

*“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.” 1 Peter 2:21*

*-hupogrammos- repeat Jesus’ life and character and values in us over and over again.*

**To \_\_\_\_\_ Disciples**

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19*

So what is the Lord Jesus’ plan for taking back this world, changing lives, for invading the hearts and minds of people? His Methodology? His Vehicle? **The \_\_\_\_\_ the body of Christ.** Everything else in the life of the Christian and Christian church are tools to enable us to hit that TARGET.

**MAIN POINT: IF YOU DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT WE MAKE UP THE BODY OF CHRIST THEN SPIRITUAL GIFTS WILL \_\_\_\_\_ US. IF WE DO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THAT SPIRITUAL GIFTS EMPOWER US FOR THE COMMON GOOD WE WILL BE UNITED.**

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

The first sign of Christian \_\_\_\_\_ is arguing over spiritual gifts. Specifically arguing over who has the most important gift or who has the Holy Spirit as a result of displaying a certain gift.

His choice of word is: \_\_\_\_\_ - a marker of contrast - ‘but, on the other hand’. He is pointing out a contrast between their behavior and what he wants to teach them. St. Paul is saying, “Knock it off and listen up!”

**you (ALL)** is a reference to a receptor of a message (with an added feature of emphasis in the form ‘you all’.

*(1 Corinthians 12:3 ESV) “Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.”*

If you can say “Jesus is Lord” with conviction publicly THEN you are saved and have the Holy Spirit living within you.

**you are the body of Christ.** Believers in Jesus Christ who are \_\_\_\_\_ together as a group, with the implication of each having a distinctive function within the group – ‘congregation, Christian group, church’.

*The role of the Pastors, Elders, Deacons and Staff is to seek the mind of Jesus for this place at this time in history, communicate his mind, and equip and send out his body to do his will.*

**“you are the body of Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ member of it.**

**Several major points emerge from this statement that we often miss:**

- The church is a living \_\_\_\_\_.
- We are not an organization of like minded people.
- The Bible teaches that we are the literal body of Jesus in the world.

Membership vs. partnership, \_\_\_\_\_ vs. missionaries. Membership is common to all organizations today.

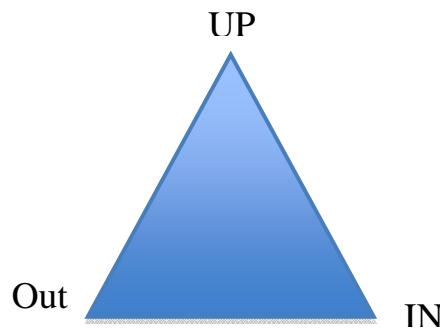
The NT emphasizes “one another” activity. •Love one another •Serve one another •Bear one another’s burdens •Forgive one another •Bear with one another

A better way to focus on what the Bible teaches and desires is found in Paul’s words on “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” in the Gospel.

*“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”  
(Philippians 1:3–5 ESV)*

Partnership means that we all have a mutual calling, a mutual responsibility for the outcome of the mission.

**How then are we to exist, live together, \_\_\_\_\_ the reality of Jesus in us as his body?**



\_\_\_\_\_ **Love the Lord your God with all your ....** “And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37 ESV)

We are called by Jesus to seek him daily. Praise him, honor him, serve him, love him, speak for him in this world. “You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD,” (Jeremiah 29:13–14 ESV)

**IN: Love one another as I have loved you.** “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” (John 15:12 ESV)

IN means fellow believers. The NT takes \_\_\_\_\_ the love and care we show one another. In fact the NT says, “But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him?” (1 John 3:17 ESV)

This requires two things in the body of Christ: We have to be willing to make our needs known. We need to be willing to receive and be ministered to.

**OUT: \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbor as yourself** “And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:39 ESV) Jesus asks you and me to reach out with his love, his grace, his truth to everyone regardless of who they are and what they believe. UP, IN and OUT is the DNA of being a Christian.

