

Part of



His Body
Part 2

Disciples of Jesus - 8

- We have been studying what it means to be a disciple of Jesus
- We have compared ourselves to athletes, soldiers, clay in the hand of a potter



Last Week

- We began to address how a disciple is part of a body.
- We discussed what the church is and how Christ is the head of the church.
- This includes both its universal and local sense



Last Week

- We then began addressing **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**
- In this passage Paul describes how we need to function together in the same way a physical body functions with all its parts



Last Week

- **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**
- **12-13**, we noted Paul is addressing our spiritual relationship - we were all baptized into Christ.
- **14-16** - all are needed. We should accept our role and realize that we are part of His body, even if think we are unimportant (we are not).



Last Week

- **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**
- **17**, since you are you, be the best you can be at who you are!
- **18-20** - I am exactly where God wants me to be!
Without each other, we would not be His body!
We are like an orchestra.



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- We must humbly appreciate each other - **1 Cor. 12:21**
God resists the arrogant!
- Do not dismiss others as less or unimportant!
Instead APPRECIATE what they can do!
- **Romans 12:3, Phil. 2:3-5**
1 Peter 5:5-6



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- We must humbly appreciate each other - **1 Cor. 12:21**

Let us not avoid one another because of differences or dislikes

- Consider **Galatians 5:13-15**,
1 Corinthians 1:10-13

- **Ephesians 4:1-3** - unity is something we must ALL work at!



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- Members we deem “less honorable” -
1 Cor. 12:22-24
Which parts of our body are most important? The internals
- Where would we be without those working behind the scenes?
- Be careful before you judge someone merely by appearance!
Matthew 23:11-12,
Luke 18:14 - whose prayer was heard?



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- No schism in the body **1 Cor. 12:25-26**

Schism means a tearing apart! (**Cf. Matthew 9:16**)

- When a tendon tears,...
- Spiritually, we must work to bear with one another's weaknesses

Romans 14,
1 Corinthians 8:1-13,
10:23-24, etc.



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- No schism in the body **1 Cor. 12:25-26**
- How do we prevent schism?
With “the same love for one another”
We have to care!
Cf. 1 Corinthians 13:1-8
- **26** - If one suffers, all do -
Romans 12:15, Galatians 6:2
- **Cf. 1 Corinthians 5:1-2** - why
where they NOT mourning?



Functioning as part of His body

The body in relation to one another

- You are the body of Christ, and members individually!

1 Corinthians 12:27

The “body of Christ” here is likely a reference to their local church

- Being autonomous, each church answers directly to Christ, the head!

And so do we as individuals!



Functioning as part of His body

Other passages:

- **Ephesians 4:16**, a passage that reminds us that our growth comes when “every part does its share.” We should not expect others to bear our load

(**cf. Galatians 6:5**)

To the degree I am not doing my share, the body suffers!



Functioning as part of His body

Other passages:

- **Colossians 3:14-15**, put on love, which is the bond (connects us together) of perfection. Let the peace of God rule... We ought to be a peace with one another and within ourselves.

Ephesians 2:14-16



Functioning as part of His body

Other passages:

- **1 Corinthians 10:16-17**, the body ought to be a place of genuine fellowship, as we worship God - an act of fellowship both with Him and with one another!



In Summary

Disciples as the body of Christ

- We seek dependance, NOT independence - **Ephesians 2:19**
- We seek equality, not superiority - **Roman s12:3, cf. 1 Peter 5:2-4, 1 Timothy 4:12-16, etc.**
- We seek harmony, not hostility - **John 17:20-21, 13:34-35, etc.**
- We are diverse, but still united!



IF we want to get to heaven, WE
NEED EACH OTHER!

Will we do our part to ensure His
body is functioning at its fullest
potential?



What about you?

Are you doing your part to help
this spiritual growth?



Let us pray!

