

## **WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST**

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Ephesians 4:15-16

Romans 12:3-8

### **Awareness**

Before listening, reflect:

- How would you describe the Church (the universal body of believers) to someone unfamiliar with the Christian faith?
- What do you think it means to be the Body of Christ?

If you've ever studied the human body, or experienced sickness or injury, you've likely marveled at the interconnectedness of our systems. Mental and emotional sickness exhibit physical symptoms. Hip tightness causes knee pain. And yet when our bodies function well we barely notice, because its efforts are seamless and well-orchestrated. This is what Paul had in mind as he compared the Church to a human body to help believers better appreciate why they need each other, and how they should treat and care for each other, so that all members are equally valued in their roles. After all, together we are the physical presence of Christ on earth today.

**Listen:** [\*We Are The Body Of Christ\*](#)

### **Reflection**

After listening, consider:

- How often do you think about being the hands and feet of Jesus here on earth? How about your actions as “an extension of what Jesus did in his physical body while he was here on earth,” like hosts Scott Hoezee and Dave Bast describe? Do these perspectives influence how you behave? Why or why not?
- In the opening of segment 2, Dave and Scott discuss the broken factions in the Corinthian church and their arguments about the spiritual gifts and which roles were more important or less important. Do you think churches today still encounter these attitudes or struggle with disagreements about spiritual gifts? Why or why not?
- What is your role or purpose in the Body of Christ? What do you contribute to help it function well? If you do not know, then schedule some time with your pastor or another trusted church leader to discuss spiritual gifts and how you can best contribute to the Body of Christ.
- Reread Romans 12:4-6a. How does your thinking about spiritual gifts change when they are defined as gifts of grace—or “gracelets” as Scott describes them—as opposed to talents?

### **Related Passages**

- **Ephesians 1:22-23**

## **Conclusion**

Spend some time mapping out what Dave called the interconnectedness of your local church. Think about all the various ways different people contribute to the life, function, and ministry of your church and identify why their role is valuable and needed. As you think about specific individuals, pray for them, and consider who could you show honor to for their role in helping the Body of Christ function?

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<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/we-are-the-body-of-christ>

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