

We are the Body of Christ

In his letters, the Apostle Paul repeatedly uses the image of Christ's body to help believers understand what it means to *be* the Church. By observing what the human body needs and how it functions, Paul teaches believers in the Church who they are, what they need, how they should treat and care for each other, and how they should function as the physical presence of Christ on earth today.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- 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?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [We are the Body of Christ](#)

READ [1 Corinthians 12:12-27](#), [Ephesians 4:15-16](#), [Romans 12:3-8](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- 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 for further study

[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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