

A Pandemic Survival Kit Sermon Series *by* Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 NRSV

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with great honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS – The Body of Christ

1. What words or phrases catch your attention in the scripture reading?
2. After taking some time to LISTEN to God, what image or words did you find? Did you hear anything you didn't expect?
3. Sometimes when we consider our gifts and talents, or what we have to offer God, we struggle to come up with things, or we would rather not say what we're good at. What would your friends or family say are your gifts/talents? Ask them, write them down.
4. If you were to describe yourself as a “part” in the body of Christ, what part would you be?
5. How did God arrange the various members of the human body and why did He do so? (verses 24-26) What lessons does this have for the church?
6. Paul talks about unity in the church; how can church members exercise individuality while standing united with others?

7. Why is unity so important to the church? Or to a person's relationship with God?
8. During this pandemic, how can you strengthen your connections to other parts of our church body?