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# GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR CHURCH

## 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

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Central Idea: The body of Christ, the church, is not one part, but many, operating together as a whole. Are you operating on your own?

### Introduction:

This passage gives us one of the most meaningful descriptions of the church in all of Scripture. Paul wanted the Corinthians to recognize their spiritual oneness within the body of Christ. To do so, he showed a similarity between the human body and the true church. The human body has many parts or members, but it is still one body (12:12a).

- I. Oneness of the Body, 12:12-13
  1. One body, v. 12
  2. One baptism, v. 13a
  3. One drink, v. 13b
  
- II. Diversity of Members, 12:14-18
  1. The body performs many functions, v. 14
  2. Each function is important, vv. 15-16
  3. Each function must be performed, v. 17
  4. God assigns each function, v. 18
  
- III. Mutual Need of Members, 12:19-21
  
- IV. Importance of All Members, 12:22-26
  1. Not based upon appearance, vv. 22-23
  2. Equally distributed, vv. 24-25
  3. Importance of the entire body, v. 26

### Conclusion:

This passage is one of the most meaningful messages we can study about the church. The purpose of the passage is to stress the unity of the church. The church is said to be a body, a body of many parts or members. It is compared to the human body throughout the whole passage.

The church is one body; therefore, it is to suffer as well as rejoice together. The body is to walk through the experiences of life together, suffering and rejoicing with every member, looking after and caring for every member.