

Discussion Guide

It's Personal

This week we saw how one small part can cause catastrophic systemic failure. Paul uses that same idea in 1 Corinthians 12 to describe the Church. We all want our lives to count. We want our gifts to matter. We want to belong and be needed. Let's explore what that means for us.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12–14. What stands out about “one body” and “many parts”? Why does Paul emphasize unity first?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 12:15–20. Where do you see comparison in your life? Have you ever felt like the “foot” wishing you were the “hand”? What happens when people disqualify themselves?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21–24. Why is independence so appealing in our culture? Where are you tempted to think, “I don't need anyone”?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:25–26. “If one part suffers, all suffer.” Have you experienced that kind of shared care? What would it look like for our church to live this out more fully?
5. Purpose Question. Verse 18 says, “God has put each part just where He wants it.” How does that speak to the question, “Do I even have a purpose?”
6. Objection: “I'm too busy.” Where are you already making consistent deposits (health, finances, parenting, marriage)? How is serving similar? What might “strategic service” look like in this season?
7. Action Step. Read 1 Corinthians 12:27. “All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.”

Which team or area of service stands out to you?
What is one next step you could take this week?

Conclusion

You are not accidental.
You are not unnecessary.
You are part of the body.

Strategic service means placing your heart and hands where they are most needed — and trusting God with the eternal impact.