

Sermon: The Body of Christ and Pickleball

Text: [I Corinthians 12:12-27 ESV](#)

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Introduction: In our text, Paul also talks about the absurdity and utter foolishness of having everyone be the same, and function the same, in this living organism we call the Church.

I. The Body Has Many _____ (Diversity).

A. One of the main functions of the Body is _____!

B. These functions of the Body is _____ others.

II. The Body Works _____ (Unity).

A. This must hold true _____.

B. The Body is to _____ its Head, Jesus Christ.

III. The Body Has _____.

A. There should be in a healthy Body, mutual _____.

B. A person's _____ might not always be obvious.

Conclusion: As the Hebrew writer says: [Hebrews 10:23-25 \(ESV\)](#) 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Our text this morning, from [I Corinthians](#), is “dominated by the figure of the body as an organism.” - Conzelmann, p. 211. This Body is no corpse, but is enlivened by God’s Holy Spirit, Himself.

I Corinthians 12:12-27 ESV

One Body with Many Members

12 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. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, [slaves](#)[a] or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should 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. 16 And if the ear should 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. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many [parts](#),[b] yet one body.

21 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.” 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Footnotes:

[a] 1 Corinthians 12:13 For the contextual rendering of the Greek word *doulos*, see Preface

[b] 1 Corinthians 12:20 Or members; also verse 22