

1 CORINTHIANS  
**CALLED OUT**  
SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM



Sermon: **Are You One and Are You One of Us? (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)**

Date: **April 2, 2017**

One of the recurring themes in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians is the theme of church unity. In the last study from 1 Corinthians, we saw the beauty of unity in diversity. God has given a variety of gifts to his children and all of them are meant to work together to build up the church and bring glory to God. When this happens, we see the beauty of unity in diversity. In this week's study in 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, we will see that Paul refers to the church as one body with many members. We are each unique individuals and should be comfortable to be who God made us to be and yet we must also be comfortable to be one with the body of Christ. This study will emphasize the importance of both individuality and oneness within the body of Christ. We need to embrace our uniqueness and use it to be one with the body of Christ.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

**Individual Bible Study**

1. Please read 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
  - a. What does Paul mean when he writes, "so it is with Christ," at the end of verse 12? What is *metonymy* and how is this a use of *metonymy*?
  - b. Paul compares the church to one body with many members. Can you think of other Scriptures that use this metaphor? When we talk about the church being a body, how is this different from any other body of people?
  - c. What implications does verse 12 have for church membership? If you are not yet a member of the church, why not? If you are a member of the church, what are you doing to show oneness with the body of Christ?
  - d. If we are disconnected with the body of Christ, what might this tell us about our relationship with Christ himself?
  - e. Paul writes in verse 13, "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body." Who is the one Spirit to which he refers? What does the word "baptized" mean?
  - f. What is the difference between Spirit baptism and water baptism? Which one is Paul talking about in verse 13?

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- g. What would have been the difference between Jews and Greeks in the ancient world? Why is it significant that in Christ this barrier was taken down?
  
- h. What barriers might need to be taken down in our church context so that we can experience a greater oneness with one another?
  
- i. What background information do we have about slaves and slavery in the ancient world? In verse 13, Paul also teaches that slaves and free are now one in Christ. What are some implications of Paul's teaching on this?
  
- j. What does Paul mean when he writes, "all were made to *drink* of one Spirit?" What is that referring to?

**Group Discussion Questions**

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
  
2. What does it mean that the church is one body with many members? How can we embrace our individuality and yet live as one with one another as the church?
  
3. Why is it important to join a local church and become a member of it? If we fail to get involved in the body of Christ, what might that tell us about our relationship with Christ?
  
4. Why is it important that we embrace the unique combination of abilities, gifts, and personalities that God has given us as we seek to contribute to the oneness of the church? How can we do this?
  
5. How does the gospel break down barriers between groups of people? Are there any barriers in the church today that need to be taken down for the sake of the gospel?