

Discipleship

(5) Members of the Body

1 Cor. 12:4-7 ESV

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

...

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, yet one body.

Varieties of gifts, service and activities...ICor.12:4-7

What truth is made perfectly clear about our gifts/service/activities? [12:4-6](#); [Rom.12:4-6](#)

What's significant about the listing of Spirit/Lord/God? [12:4-6](#); [3:7](#); [Eph.4:11-12](#); [Rom.12:6-8](#)

Why is this 'unity' important to us? [Eph.4:11-12](#)

But what is the summary manifestation of these things? [12:7](#), [14:5](#), [12](#); [IPet.4:10-11](#)

For instance, how does Paul later categorize two groups of gifts/service/power? [ICor.3:5-9](#)

Does this imply there is no overlap between these functions? [12:11](#); [Rom.12:6](#); [ITim.4:14](#)

Application in relationships...12:14-13:13

What's the basic principle in 12:14-20? [12:18-20](#)

What happens if one member (of the body) suffers? [12:26](#); [Rom.12:15](#); [Gal.6:2](#); [Heb.13:3](#)

Greater than all these individual gifts, what is the 'still more excellent way'? [13:1-13](#)

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Varieties of gifts, service and activities...1Cor.12:4-7

What truth is made perfectly clear about our gifts/service/activities? **12:4-6; Rom.12:4-6**

There are varieties (distinction/difference) of each, but all by the same Spirit/Lord/God.

What's significant about the listing of Spirit/Lord/God? **12:4-6; 3:7; Eph.4:11-12; Rom.12-6-8**

It seems to identify the Trinity, Holy Spirit (gifts), Lord Jesus (service), Father (power).

Why is this 'unity' important to us? **Eph.4:11-12**

W/O the Spirit we have no gift, w/o Jesus we can't serve, w/o Father we have no power.

But what is the summary manifestation of these things? **12:7, 14:5, 12; IPet.4:10-11**

All gifts/service/power are different (varieties) BUT given by Spirit for the common good

For instance, how does Paul later categorize two groups of gifts/service/power? **1Cor.3:5-9**

He groups to planters (sowers) and waterers (feeders). Just think of all the varieties!

Does this imply there is no overlap between these functions? **12:11; Rom.12:6; 1Tim.4:14**

Of course not! All believers have a gift, most have several gifts! Make sure to use them!

Application in relationships...12:14-13:13

What's the basic principle in 12:14-20? **12:18-20**

God chooses the gifts as He wills. There must be many functional varieties, yet one body

What happens if one member (of the body) suffers? **12:26; Rom.12:15; Gal.6:2; Heb.13:3**

The whole body suffers. Parts are not interchangeable nor independent! Love others!

Greater than all these individual gifts, what is the 'still more excellent way'? **13:1-13**

The overarching gift of the Spirit, to all believers, is love! Love the lost, love the Body!