

#### Gospel BODY - TEXT: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

### Jesus has an unexpected BODY: 1 Corinthians 12:27

- 1) The BODY of JESUS is the SPIRIT'S BODY the CHURCH: 1 Cor. 12:12-13. See also: Ephesians 4:12, 5:29-30; Colossians 1:24
- 2) Jesus RULES over His Body: Colossians 1:18a. See also: Eph. 1:22-23
- 3) Jesus WILL BE GLORIFIED in His BODY: Colossians 1:18b
- 4) Jesus has SAVED His Body (US):
  - a) By His embodied INCARNATION: Colossians 1:19
  - b) Through His atoning, substitutionary SACRIFICE: Col. 1:20
  - c) For a forever, reconciled RELATIONSHIP with God: Col. 1:21–22
- 5) Jesus has ARRANGED His Body: 1 Corinthians 12:18

## Jesus's BODY is beautifully DIVERSE: 1 Corinthians 12:14

- 1) Jesus has APPOINTED a VARIETY of GIFTS: 1 Corinthians 12:8-10
- 2) Jesus has APPOINTED a VARIETY of ASSIGNED ROLES: 1 Cor. 12:28
- 3) NOT everyone will have EVERY (or even MANY) of the GIFTS or God assigned ROLES: 1 Corinthians 12:29–30
- 4) The MEMBERS [organs] of His BODY are NECESSARILY INTERCONNECTED: 1 Corinthians 12:15-16
  - a) ONE body: 1 Corinthians 12:20
  - b) **Profoundly INTERDEPENDENT**: Romans 12:5
- 5) EACH MEMBER of Jesus's BODY is ESSENTIAL: 1 Cor. 12:17, 19

## Jesus's BODY is deeply CARING: 1 Corinthians 12:24b-25

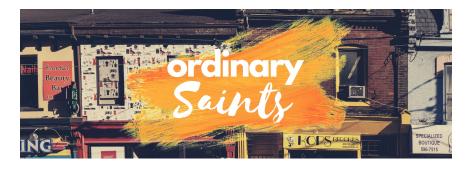
- 1) Because WE NEED EACH OTHER: 1 Corinthians 12:21-22
- 2) Because IN THE CHURCH we VALUE and ESTEEM the weak, insignificant, and broken: 1 Corinthians 12:23-24a
- 3) **Because we SHARE in both PAIN and JOY:** 1 Corinthians 12:26. See also: Romans 12:15

#### Jesus's BODY is radically LOVING: 1 Corinthians 12:31

- 1) We SHOULD ask GOD for SPIRITUAL GIFTS so that we can BUILD UP the CHURCH and GLORIFY GOD: 1 Corinthians 14:12. See also: 1 Corinthians 10:31, 12:7, 14:26; 1 Peter 4:10-11
- 2) BUT we should PURSUE being LOVING MORE: 1 Corinthians 14:1
- 3) LOVE is a NON-NEGOTIABLE Christian quality:
  - a) LOVE is WHO God IS: 1 John 4:8
  - b) LOVING undeserving SINNERS is what HE DOES: Romans 5:8. See also: John 3:16; 1 John 3:16
  - c) Without LOVE all speaking and teaching gifts are just NOISE: 1 Corinthians 13:1
  - d) Without LOVE all spiritual understanding and knowledge and faith is EMPTY: 1 Corinthians 13:2
  - e) Without LOVE all sacrifice and service PROFITS NOTHING: 1 Corinthians 13:3
  - f) LOVE is both an act of OBEDIENCE to JESUS and the EVIDENCE of our SALVATION: John 13:34–35
- 4) LOVE, therefore, both DRIVES and GOVERNS the USE of our GIFTS: 2 Corinthians 5:14–15

# "Gospel In Life" questions for REFLECTION & APPLICATION

- 1) **BELIEVE:** WHAT TRUTHS did God REVEAL to me through His Word today about HIM and/or MYSELF?
- 2) ASSESS: HOW do these truths ENCOURAGE and/or CHALLENGE (convict) ME?
- 3) PROCESS: WHY is this message GOOD NEWS (GOSPEL) to ME today? (CONNECT the GOSPEL story to MY present story)
- 4) **CHANGE:** WHERE will I APPLY (BELIEVE, REPENT, DO) this message in MY own life this week?
- 5) **PROCLAIM:** WHO does God want ME to share these truths with?
- 6) PREPARE for NEXT WEEK: Read Isaiah 40:1-11



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