



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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