



September 7 – Together (using clips from Boys in the Boat)

Our world teaches us it's all about "me" – what I want, need, desire, can get, and so on. But the truth of life is we don't get anywhere without others. Everyone needs help at some time or other. Have you ever thought about how the "I" problem in our culture carries over into our faith? Join us this weekend as some boys in a boat help us learn about being in life together!

Scripture:

I Corinthians 12:12-21, 26 NLT The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. ¹³ Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

¹⁴ Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. ¹⁵ If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?

¹⁸ But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. ¹⁹ How strange a body would be if it had only one part! ²⁰ Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. ²¹ The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." ²⁶ ...if one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.

Hebrews 10:23-25 NLT ²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Questions:

- When you think about your faith and faith journey – do you think about you alone or do you think about you in the midst of others?
- Do you believe you are a vital part of the body of Christ? What makes you say what you do? How might your life change if you truly embraced the Body of Christ's need for you?
- This week, think about your faith and faith journey in light of the truth that there are many parts of the body of Christ and all are needed and necessary – all are beloved of God. And we were created to be in relationship with God and others – so how can you grow this part of your faith journey?

Reading for the Week:

- **Monday:** John 15:4-5
- **Tuesday:** Colossians 3:12-14
- **Wednesday:** Ecclesiastes 4:9-10
- **Thursday:** Ruth 1:16-17
- **Friday:** Acts 20:35