

WEEK 2 - BELONGING TO EACH OTHER

OVERVIEW

One of Paul's most frequent metaphors for the Church is that of a "body" and he returns to that image here. In a body the different parts each serve unique functions, but all contribute to the whole. This idea raises two significant questions for us to consider. First, are we trying to "go it alone" in our faith like a limb separated from the body or are we finding our purpose and identity in our connection to the whole? Second, are we utilizing the unique gifts and purposes God has given us to serve the body or are we squandering our uniqueness on ourselves? Considering our identity as parts of a larger body requires significant humility, but it can also be the key to discovering the very reason we made!

We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

Romans 12:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What would it look like for you to "go it alone" in your faith? Have you ever had this experience? If so, describe what that was like.
- 2. Read Romans 12:3-5.
 - a. How should we think of ourselves?
 - b. What actions does someone take based on the way they think of themselves?
 - c. How should we go about measuring ourselves (verse 3)?
 - d. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How did Jesus think of himself?
- 3. Describe what it means to "belong to each other" (Romans 12:5).
- 4. How are you utilizing the unique gifts and purposes God has given you to serve the body of Christ?
- **5.** How well are you measuring up to the person God has called *you* to be? What would be the first step in finding the answer to this question?

Consider these questions from Barry as you personally think about getting in the game:

Where has God placed you?

Who has God put in your path?

How has God redeemed your brokenness?

What passions has God given you to heal the world?

How has God gifted you uniquely?

Spiritual Gifts Assessment: www.gracechurch.us/giftstest

Grace Church Value: Put Me In, Coach

We will not sit on the sidelines when God's Spirit is moving. We are activistic, engaged, and passionate about using our gifts and resources to heal this broken world in Jesus' name.