

KEY SCRIPTURE:

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV): 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV): 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (ESV): 16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 12:12–30 (ESV): 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

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.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

Start Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Pastor Dallas focused on the Body of Christ being made up of the many unique people of God, coming together to exalt Christ. What is your favorite thing about yourself. Have fun but be humble! 😊

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What part of the message did God use to impact you most? Why?
- Think of some ways the church is an interdependent community and make a list. How does that impact the way you view your role in the local church?
- How is Christ exalted when we make ourselves interdependent in the church rather than determining to be independent.
- 1 Corinthians teaches about the need for unity in the church as well as God's design for diversity of the church. Diversity is more than race or ethnicity – what are some ways your church family is diverse and what are some ways to grow in diversity?

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Share a time when you felt indispensable to the Body of Christ. What stood out in that moment? Who made you feel that way? How did you pass that same feeling of importance onto someone else?
- Is interdependence easy or difficult for you? Why or why not?
- Interdependence is a key component for a healthy church. How are you growing in that, both in terms of relying on others, but also letting others rely on you?
- The Body of Christ is meant to grow through our life on mission. What are you doing/praying for right now to expand the reach of God's church?

Start Praying. Pray this prayer in your own words with your group.

Lord Jesus, help me rely on you first and foremost! Thank you for inviting me into the Body of Christ. Help me to grow in my passion to participate in the Body of Christ and make the passion you give me contagious so that everyone around me shares in that same passion. Be glorified through all of this, my God and my King! In Jesus' name, amen!

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Think of a person or team at Restore that you know serves behind the scenes and write them a card to let them know how much you appreciate their importance as part of the church.
- If you are not serving on a team already, join a team to begin participating in the ministry God made you for.
- Pray for unity and growth in the Church