# Being Part of the Body of Christ

**Ken Chapman** · 1 Corinthians 12:12–27

## INTRODUCTION

- We don't really appreciate what we have till it's gone.
- We don't appreciate the intricacy and the beauty of how things work until something is taken away from us.
- You are the body of Christ and members individually.

## 1 Christ Is the Head of the Body

**Ephesians 5:23–27**

- Christ is the head of the church and the Savior of the body.
- We begin with this premise that if you're a part of the body of Christ, that Christ is your head.
- Don't get so lost in those technicalities that you fail to see that Christianity is first and foremost about a relationship.
- That's the only way a body, anybody, can properly function is if the head is in control.
- It's an honor, it's a relationship, and it's a responsibility.

## 2 Joined to Every Other Member of That Body

**1 Corinthians 12:12–13**

- If you're a part of the body of Christ, you are connected to the head. And by again, unavoidable implication, you are joined to every other member of that body.
- The body is one, but has many members, but all the members of that one body being many are one body.
- There's no black churches or white churches. There's one body, he says.
- The implications, the ramifications, the application of that, largely is played out in the local church.
- If there are body parts that I assemble with regularly, who I live in proximity to, and who know personally, then doesn't it necessarily follow that I have an obligation to those parts of the body as well.

## 3 Being Part of This Body Places a Responsibility

**1 Corinthians 12:14–21**

- 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.
- The over inflated superiority complex and the overdeflated inferiority complex.
- If you've been baptized into Christ, you are a body part. … if you're not doing your part, the body suffers.
- That role just won't be done, and we have a church laying on the couch doing nothing, or somebody else is going to have to take up that and be your crutch.

- You're not so important that you don't need anybody else, but you're not so less important that you're not needed in this body.

## 4 Study the Anatomy of the Body

**1 Corinthians 12:22–25**

- Those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.
- There should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care one for another.
- I need to study the body. I need to understand what this body is and how it functions, and then I'll understand, oh you have a role. I have a role. And it's important.
- That part that I didn't even know existed and know what it did is more important than that other part that I always knew about and thought was the most important.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **It's up to you to figure out what part am I. Figure it out. And then start doing what that part does.**

MY NOTES