

The Body of Christ



May 22, 2016
Sent with the Gifts

FAITH



Share: Share your Highs & Lows of the day.



Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text.

- 22 Sunday 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 – Sent with the Gifts
- 23 Monday 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 – Resurrection of Christ
- 24 Tuesday 1 Corinthians 15:12-34 – Resurrection of the Dead
- 25 Wednesday 1 Corinthians 15:35-50 – Resurrection of the Body
- 26 Thursday 1 Corinthians 15:50 – 58 – Hope of the Resurrection
- 27 Friday 1 Corinthians 16:1 – 12 – Collection and Plans for Travel
- 28 Saturday 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 - Final Messages and Greetings



Talk: Study the reading and consider the background.

The people of Corinth were having problems. There were people in the community who thought that they were better than others because of their gifts. They felt like they had been given special gifts that were more important than other people's gifts. The Apostle Paul wanted them to realize that each of them had been given a gift and that no one's gift was any more special than another person's gift.

Paul talked about how all the parts of the body are important parts of the body. Have you ever stubbed your toe before? If just that one part of your body hurts your whole body hurts. All the parts of our body are important. The church is the Body of Christ and each person in the church has been given a gift by the Spirit. God wants everyone to share those gifts so that all the parts of the body are working together.

Think about all the people who share their gifts in your church. They may share their gifts helping to clean the church, welcome people, teach, fold the bulletins each week. There are so many things that people do to help the church to work together. Even better God gives gifts to the Body of Christ to make a difference in the world. Think about all the ways that people share their gifts in your community where you live. What gifts has God given you? How can you make a difference in the world?

What are the gifts that God has given you?

Who are people who make a difference in your life?

Notes from Sunday to support this week's devotions:



Pray: Pray for your Highs & Lows, for yourself, for your family, and for the world. You can use this prayer or make your own.

Holy Spirit, you draw your people together as one body, uniting us even where there is division and difference. Open our eyes to your gifts in each member of the body around us, and open our hearts to show our gratitude, especially for those gifts that are most often overlooked but build up your body. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayer Concerns to take home for this week:



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing. Mark the sign of the cross on each other's head or your own forehead and use words of blessing like:

- * You are a blessed and loved child of God, marked by the cross of Christ forever.
- * Jesus loves you and so do I.
- * May you share your gifts God has given you. . Amen.

By acting on what we learn, we are blessed to be a blessing.

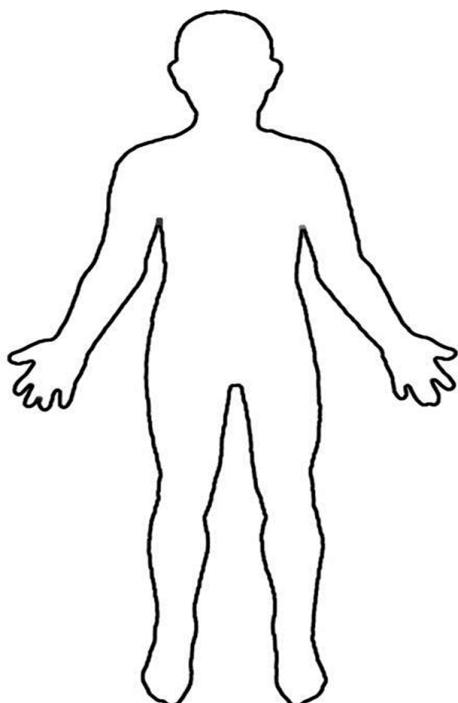
Consider the following activity this week.

Write a thank you note to someone who has made a difference in your life

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We are all a part of the Body of Christ. Write your gifts God has given you on the body.