

Facilitator:

1. Open with Prayer
2. Welcome any newcomers
3. Try to keep your discussion to an hour and a half at the most.

CONNECT Group study questions for February 26, 2017

Title: Body Works — 1Corinthians 12:12-26

Review: A mature disciple of Jesus Christ does four things consistently:

Loves God

Loves Others

Loves Ministry

Loves the Lost

Children:

Do you feel that you are an important part of “the body of Christ?”
How are you important?

How do you “Love God” in your own life?

In KidsConnect, we’ve been learning about Nehemiah and how God used him to lead the people to rebuild Jerusalem’s walls. What happened when every person did their share of the work rebuilding? What would have happened if anyone had not done their part? (See Nehemiah 3)

Can you think of a specific job you have in your family at home? What about in your class? On a sports team? At church (ideas: welcoming visitors, helping keep our property clean, helping the teacher with supplies, opening doors and greeting people)?

Miscellaneous:

The Pre-Service Prayer Group meets each Sunday morning from 8:00 am to 8:30 am in Admin Room 2. Come join us in praying for our church!

Read: 1Corinthians 12:12-26 NKJV

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.

If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And 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." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Question: With regard to unity or disunity, what are the problems you see facing the Church today? How do we get the body to function as one?

Question: You have probably heard someone say something like: "I can worship God in my boat fishing. I don't need to be in church." or "Why do I need other Christians when I have God to look after me?"

How would you answer those statements? What's wrong with going it alone, just you and God?

Question: Verse 13 says we were baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body when we came to faith in Jesus Christ.

What evidence do you have that you are a member of a greater body? What changed? What is your primary function in the body of Christ?

Question: Verses 14-20 say we were "made" to drink of the Holy Spirit.

If this is where we receive our nourishment to function as members of the body of Christ, what are the ways we access that nourishment? What does it mean "to drink"?

Question: Members of the body fail to function at times when they are “overtaken in [a] trespass.” We are to “restore such ... in a spirit of gentleness.”

Read: Galatians 6:1-2

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Share a time when you may have been gently restored, or led by the Spirit to gently restore another. How did that work out for you? For them?

Question: Do you feel you are insignificant in the body of Christ? Do you compare yourself to other Christians by how you and they function in the church?

Question: What are the dangers in over-estimating your value in the body of Christ? What are the dangers in under-estimating your value? How can you be sure you correctly estimate your value and function effectively in the body of Christ? Or should we be trying to estimate our value at all? **Read:** Ephesians 5:15-21 — *See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God.*

Does this passage answer the question? What other scripture passages serve as a guide to correctly estimating your value as a fully functioning member of the body?