

Lesson 3 | Members of the Local Body

Scriptures to Consider:

Matt. 10:5-23; 18:15-18; 25:31-33
1Cor. 12-14; Rom. 14:4-5, 12; Act. 9:26-31; Acts 11:27-30;
Gal. 5:13, 22-26; 6:2, 10; Eph. 4:1-16, 32; Phil. 2:2-4; 4:4-7, 10-14; Col. 3:21-17; 4:5-6;
1The. 4:9-12; 5:12-22; 1Tim. 1:15, 5:9-16; 1Tim. 2:4

- I. Distinction Between the Church and the Individual
- II. Working With and Identifying with a Local Body
- III. Responsibilities of Each Member
 - a. Evangelism
 - b. Encouragement
 - c. Example
 - d. Others...
- IV. The Importance of **Each** Member (1Cor. 12-14, 14, Rom. 12, Eph. 4)
- V. The Attitude of Each Member
 - a. Toward God
 - b. Toward other members
 - c. Toward the world
 - d. Expectations

Questions:

1. How would you explain the distinction between the church and the individual member? What are some limitations we see from scripture (for either group)?

2. Is it important to join a local body? Why is it important for the potential member? Why is it important for the local church that this potential member join?

3. What are some things to be reminded of when preparing to evangelize?

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4. How can we become a better encourager toward others?

5. Examining the “body” analogy from 1 Corinthians.
 - a. DRAW a physical body. Label Christ as the Head. Draw an arrow to the body parts listed in chapter 12. Label each of these arrows with one of the members listed in verse 28. (Note* There will be a couple extra members listed without a mentioned body part – please select additional body parts as needed. And please do not focus too long on which body part to assign each member, as this is not critically important). We will discuss this drawing during class.

 - b. Now, draw a line through each of the members from this passage that we do not have today. (I would keep the Apostles and Prophets since we still have their writings). Replace the unlabeled body part with one of the members in our local Wallingford church. Continue to add each member from the Wallingford church until you have everyone listed as a body part. (This doesn’t have to “make sense” – it will be used for illustrative purposes in class, so please do not focus too long on which body part to assign each member; just assign them). We will discuss this new drawing during class as well.

