

# United in Jesus

Bible Story • The Body of Christ • 1 Corinthians 12:12-31



## God's Word

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."  
1 Corinthians 12:27

*For Younger Children:*  
"You are a part of the body of Christ."

## God's Word & Me

I belong to the Body of Christ, and I can use my abilities to help others follow Jesus.

## Missions Focus

What parts of the Body of Christ do missionaries need in order to be able to tell about Jesus?

Why might a missionary's job be difficult?

What are some things you can pray for missionaries to help them as they tell about Jesus?

## Teacher's Devotional

Think about a time when you belonged to a team or group—baseball, choir, soccer, cheerleading, debate—whatever it was, do you remember how it felt to truly belong and have a purpose for being a part of the group? Whether you were the team captain, team manager or player, an alto, soprano or tenor, the one to always gather the research or the debater, you were important. A sports team depends on many people to do well in games. Altos who don't know their notes keep the sopranos from knowing when to come in. If no one does the research, how can a debater debate?

We may think that we don't do enough and can't contribute enough. Even at church we may feel like we don't belong or that our contribution is not important. But Paul sets us straight in 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.

Paul explains that the Body of Christ is a unit. Just like there are many parts of the body, there are many people in the Body of Christ and all of the parts are necessary! The parts are designed to all work together as one. Once we become a follower of Christ and are a part of God's family, we belong to the Body of Christ. Each one of us has gifts given to us by God that are imperative for the function of the Church. We are called to use the abilities God gave us in order to have a whole, integrated, unified Church which is able to serve God by serving one another. You do have gifts, whether you recognize them or not. The only standard by which God measures us is by our faithfulness in using the gifts He has given us. Whatever your gift may be, find it. Use it for the purpose of serving God as you serve the Body of Christ in unity and wholeness.



“You are a part of the Body of Christ.” (See 1 Corinthians 12:27.)  
What can you do this week to help other friends of Jesus?

