THE CHURCH TOGETHER "The Church Ministering Together" I Corinthians 12:12-27; Romans 12:6

I Corinthians 12:12, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ."

(vs. 27) - Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

Key concepts: **<u>unity</u>**, **<u>interdependence</u>** among the believers.

¹³ "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

We find **unity** in our membership to the corporate Body and because of our **interdependence**, we find our strength in the **diversity** in that Body.

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."

²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require.

24b "But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another."

(vs 26) - "If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."

(vs. 27) - Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

Romans 12:6, "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them"

The church together is the Church Ministering Together

I. Every Member Is to Be Involved in Ministry

"Ministry" is using who I am and how I was created to help somebody else in the name of God.

A. <u>You are created for ministry</u> (Ephesians 2:10)

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

B. <u>You are gifted for ministry</u> (I Peter 4:10)

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." I Peter 4:10

C. You are needed for ministry (Ephesians 4:12)

"to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ," Ephesians 4:12

II. Every Member Can Know Their Ministry

(Screen shot) - shades.org/volunteer and click on "serving assessments."

A. <u>Passion/Life Experiences</u> - Where best for you to serve.

- B. Spiritual gifts/Skills What you will do
- C. <u>Personality Style</u> How you will serve.

III. Every Member's Ministry is Important

A. You will be fruitful and fulfilled in a meaningful place of service.

B. <u>The church will be strengthened</u>, <u>will grow in maturity and Kingdom</u> <u>impact</u>.