



Why Step In?

1 Corinthians 12:1-31

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Brian Lightsey

What does it look like to go from a life influenced by sin to a life influenced by the Spirit?

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2 You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. 3 Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.... 12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body. (NIV)

The church is compared to a body.

Why **STEP IN** and take your place in the church body?

■ **UNITY: We each belong to one another.** (3-6, 12-13, 25, 27)

■ We all confess the same Lord. (3)

1 Corinthians 12:3 ...no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit. (NIV)

■ We all depend on the same God. (4-6)

1 Corinthians 12:4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. (NIV)

■ We all share the same baptism. (13)

1 Corinthians 12:13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. (NIV)

■ We all form the same church body. (12, 25, 27)

1 Corinthians 12:12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.... 25 ...there should be no division in the body.... 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (NIV)

■ **DIVERSITY: We each have been given various gifts as different parts of one church body.** (4-10, 14, 20, 28-30)

1 Corinthians 12:4 There are different kinds of gifts.... 5 There are different kinds of service.... 6 There are different kinds of working.... 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given.... 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.... 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body. (NIV)

■ **SOVEREIGNTY: We each have been placed in the church and gifted just as God determined.** (11, 18, 24)

1 Corinthians 12:11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.... 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.... 24 ...God has put the body together... (NIV)

■ **NECESSITY: We each have a valuable role in the church that only we can fulfill.** (14-20)

1 Corinthians 12:14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. 15 Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

■ **INTERDEPENDENCY: We each need one another.** (21-26)

1 Corinthians 12:21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. (NIV)

■ **RESPONSIBILITY: We each are expected to STEP IN and serve in the role God has for us in the church.** (7, 31)

1 Corinthians 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.... 31...yet I will show you the most excellent way. (NIV)