

## Sermon Discussion Guide

### “Together” Series

#### Part 3: Make an Impact (1 Corinthians 12:12–26)

**Icebreaker Questions:** (*Option #1*): What is one luxury item you’d love to have? (It doesn’t need to be realistic.) (*Option #2*): What from your childhood does springtime remind you of? (Or: What was a favorite outdoor activity of yours from your childhood?)

**Prayer:** Take a few moments at the beginning of your group time to pray for God’s presence and blessing on your discussion. At the end of your gathering, pray for one another and ask God to use your time together to strengthen your faith and make you more like Jesus.

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 12:12–26

**Big Idea:** The church is one body with many parts, each uniquely placed by God—meaning your impact comes not from being everything, but from faithfully being your part for the glory of Christ and the good of the whole.

### Discussion Questions

1. What was the most encouraging, convicting, confusing, or thought-provoking part of the sermon or Scripture reading to you this week, and why?
2. What does this text teach us about how we can “make an impact”? Point to specific verses, if you can.
  - a. What do we learn about the identity, value, and function of the church from this passage?
3. Read vv. 15–17. Why do you think Paul uses body parts like the foot and ear, “wishing” they were something else? What problem is he addressing? How can we resist this temptation in our lives?
  - a. What, practically, has been helpful for you in resisting envy of others’ gifts, talents, and callings?
4. Read verses 18 and 24. Who is responsible for arranging the body, and why does that matter for how we view ourselves and others?
5. What stands out to you about how Paul describes the parts that “seem to be weaker” in verses 22–24? How, practically, should this shape the way we relate to one another?
  - a. Who in our church might be a “less visible” part that you (or we as a group) could intentionally honor or encourage?
6. What is one way our group can “make an impact” in our church or community?
7. Where do you see the gospel in today’s passage? How does today’s text and discussion make Jesus/the gospel more precious to you?
8. What is one specific way you would like to apply today’s Scripture readings or small group discussion this next week? Is there one step the Holy Spirit is prompting you to take?

## Scripture Reading

### 1 Corinthians 12:12–26 (NIV)

#### *Unity and Diversity in the Body*

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—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 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.

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.