

Daily Bible Study Guide for August 31 – September 5

Monday, August 31
Read: 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

The Place
and Purpose
of Diversity

1 Corinthians 12:14-26



4th in a series in
I Corinthians 12

14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. 19 If they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now there are many members, but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; 23 and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable, 24 whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, 25 so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

1. What part of your physical body do you think is least necessary, and why?

2. What part of your body is most necessary, and why?

3. What part of the church body is most necessary, and why?

4. What would happen to your physical body if the most important part was missing or not working properly?

5. Discussion/Application: What would happen to our church body if the most important part was missing or not working properly?

Tuesday, September 1

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:14-18

1. Who decides who becomes a part of the church body, and why is this decision process so important?

2. How is 1 Corinthians 12:11 similar to 1 Corinthians 12:18?

3. How are those two verses different?

4. What should be done if God puts someone in your church family who is very much different from you?

5. Discussion/Application: What should be done if God puts someone in your church (or even biological) family whom you do not like?

Wednesday, September 2

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:19-22

1. Why is it important for each person in the church to be different from all the other people who are a part of the same family?

2. To what degree is it OK for our church to have theological variety, rather than functional variety?

3. Is it fair or right to say that those who significantly differ in their theology are not or cannot be a part of our church family? In other words, if unity is a mark of spirituality, should those who differ from us not be a part of us?

4. What kind of weakness is meant in verse 22?

5. Discussion/Application: Do you see yourself as a weaker or a stronger part of SeaTac Bible Church? How does your strength or weakness affect your role at SBC?

Thursday, September 3

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:23-24

1. How do churches typically honor one member over another?

2. How do churches typically treat members of less honor?

3. What does verse 23 say about the way to treat less honorable members?

4. If there is a difference between your answers for questions 2 and 3, why do some churches not do what verse 23 says to do?

5. Discussion/Application: How can SBC do better at obeying verse 23?

Friday, September 4

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:22-25

1. Why, according to verse 25, are we supposed to do verses 22 – 24?

2. What, according to 1 Corinthians 12, is one source of division in the church?

3. What, according to 1 Corinthians 12, might cause people in the church to not care for one another?

4. What division, if any, do you see at SBC, and what can heal that divide?

5. Discussion/Application: What care, if any, do you see at SBC, and what can be done to increase our care for one another?

Saturday, September 5

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:26

1. How is the principle in today's verse true with regard to a physical body?

2. How is this principle true with regard to a spiritual body?

3. A physical body is hardwired to react or respond to what happens to its members. A spiritual body is not. What, then, is required before a spiritual body can do what verse 26 says ought to be done?

4. What might cause one member of a spiritual body to not suffer with or rejoice with another member?

5. Discussion/Application: How can you help SBC be better at fully participating in the sorrows and joys of others in our church?
