

Encounter these verses today:

*circle words that you identify with,
underline phrases or sentences you'd
like to remember, write questions about
the passage out to the side ...*



1 Corinthians 12:14-27 [NIV]

:: The Church is Like the Human Body ::

¹⁴Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷If 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? ¹⁸But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

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

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

verses 25-27 from The Message Paraphrase:

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

²⁷⁻³¹You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your "part" mean anything.



What is God speaking to you this morning ...



Download this sermon & outline at www.flushingcommunity.org

Digging Deeper | 2010

[Engage the message throughout the week]

Monday: 5.24.2010

Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:25-27

The illustration of the church being like our bodies gives us all quite a bit to think about.

Think about it:

What do you think about when you think about your body? How well does it cooperate with itself?

Pray for: *Directory families: O'Brien to Pavia*

Reflections: _____

Tuesday: 5.25.2010

Reading: Romans 12:4-8

Paul reminds us that we all have a special role to play in the church. What gift do you think you've been given? What part of the Body of Christ have you been designed for?

Think about it:

How can understanding your role in the church (your part) help you in how you view the church?

Pray for: *Directory families: Piechowski to Poindexter*

Reflections: _____

Wednesday: 5.26.2010

Reading: Matthew 5:27-30

The "sermon on the mount" records many of Jesus' thoughts about life. He uses the body to help us see the power of sin.

Think about it:

Would you be willing to cut off your hand or gouge out your eyes? What does this say about the impact of each part of our body?

Pray for: *Directory families: Powell to Rutherford*

Reflections: _____

Thursday: 5.27.2010

Reading: Ephesians 3:1-6

To the Ephesians, the Gentiles were outsiders. They were not particularly welcomed to the discussion of the Body.

Think about it:

What do you think about being connected to those who don't look like you - act like you - think like you?

Pray for: *Directory families: Salem to Schilke*

Reflections: _____

Friday: 5.28.2010

Reading: Colossians 3:15

Peace. That's something we all need today. Many things can rule in our hearts but there's nothing sweeter than peace. The peace that only God gives.

Think about it:

We are called to ONE body. A body filled with peace. Is that possible? Really?

Pray for: *Directory families: Sedlarik to Smith*

Reflections: _____

Saturday: 5.29.2010

Reading: Acts 2:42-47

We finish our week by looking at the beginning of the church again (just like we did last Saturday). Devotion, friendship, sharing, miracles, common bonds, no rich, no poor. These are just a few of descriptive words that help us understand the church as Jesus left it.

Think about it:

What attracts you about that church? What scares you about that church? How can we become more like that church?

Pray for: *Directory families: Sopka to Stewart*

Reflections: _____

