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All in the Family

I Corinthians 11:17-12:31 | Week Eight | Participant Guide

Preparing for the Session

Read: I Corinthians 11:17-12:31

Memorize: *“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.” - I Cor. 12:12*

Looking at the Text

11:17-34

1. What is the purpose of observing the Lord’s Supper (Communion)? Despite the different ways some Christian traditions celebrate communion, what are some aspects of it that unite Christians?

2. The Corinthians were causing divisions in relation to the Lord’s Supper. Paul told them not to approach communion “in an unworthy manner” (v. 27). What does he recommend they do in order to approach communion properly?

12:1-11

3. Paul explains that “there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.” Which of the gifts that are listed resonate with you the most? How might they play a role in your chosen academic field?

12:12-31

4. Explain what Paul means when he uses the illustration of the “body.” Think about your academic studies. How do the “parts” of your chosen profession need to work together to form the entire “body”?

5. Based on your reading of this passage, what are the purposes of the spiritual gifts in the church?

6. What can you do to encourage Christian unity in the church? How might your approach to unity apply to your chosen career path?

“All Christians have the Spirit and gifts for ministry. We must use our gifts to edify one another, for the church cannot function well without our gifts just as our bodies cannot function in their fullness unless every organ is working.”
Ligonier Ministries, “The Gifts of the Spirit”

“In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity.”
Rupertus Meldenius (1582-1651)

A clock is a good illustration of the critical nature of even the smallest parts. If an internal spring breaks it will stop, no matter how beautiful the face or magnificent the sweeping hands. You might be a greeter for a grad event or the main speaker in a campus wide outreach. Both roles are crucial in making connections with those who attend. Bring your gifts to the Fellowship!