

BODY LIFE COMPLEXES
(1 Corinthians 12:15-27)



INTRODUCTION: Our physical bodies are made up of many different parts - from kidneys to toes and from bone marrow to fingers. Every part is essential in order for our bodies to function properly. This is also true of the Body of Christ - the Church. Every believer, at the time of conversion, becomes a member in the Body of Christ. We all have a place in this divinely structured group of people and are called to contribute to its growth and ministry. When we discover and accept our place, we experience fulfillment and the joy there is in serving Jesus and the other members of the Body. The Bible is very clear that every Christian has been specifically created, gifted, and graced for a unique place of contribution and service within the Church of Jesus Christ. Finding our place of service requires that we acknowledge the fact that we do, in fact, have a special place and that we should be willing to accept the unique position which God has given to us. There are two responses described in 1 Corinthians 12:15-27 that interfere with the unity and function of the Body of Christ which we want to look at this evening.

I. THE INFERIORITY COMPLEX BELIEVER - 1 Corinthians 12:15-20

PRINCIPLE ONE:

In a body _____ member is a part of the body.

PRINCIPLE TWO:

In a body every member has a _____ function to fulfill, no matter what that member may be.

PRINCIPLE THREE:

In a body every member is set in their place by _____ appointment.

II. THE *SUPERIORITY* COMPLEX BELIEVER - 1 Corinthians 12:21-27

PRINCIPLE ONE:

In a body the greater member is _____ upon the lesser member.

PRINCIPLE TWO:

In a body the greater member recognizes that the lesser member is _____ .

PRINCIPLE THREE:

In a body the lesser members are given more _____ instinctively.

PRINCIPLE FOUR:

In a body _____ gives more honor to the lesser parts.