

Children and family talk for 23rd January 2022

Good morning everyone!

How are your ears today? How is your left arm? Is your right hand okay today?

I expect you're wondering what I am talking about, usually people don't ask individual questions about each part of your body, do they?

Today we are reading about how our body has many parts and how this is like the Christian church. As I read our passage today you may like to have a piece of paper in front of you and draw a body with its different parts as I mention them.

Our reading today is from 1 Corinthians chapter 12 verses 12 to 31a.

The Body of Christ

¹² A person's body is one thing, but it has many parts. Yes, there are many parts to a body, but all those parts make only one body. Christ is like that too. ¹³ Some of us are Jews, and some of us are Greeks. Some of us are slaves, and some of us are free. But we were all baptized into one body through one Spirit. And we were all made to share in the one Spirit.

¹⁴ And a person's body has more than one part. It has many parts. ¹⁵ The foot might say, "I am not a hand. So I am not part of the body." But saying this would not stop the foot from being a part of the body. ¹⁶ The ear might say, "I am not an eye. So I am not part of the body." But saying this would not make the ear stop being a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, the body would not be able to hear. If the whole body were an ear, the body would not be able to smell anything. ¹⁸⁻¹⁹ If each part of the body were the same part, there would be no body. But truly God put the parts in the body as he wanted them. He made a place for each one of them. ²⁰ And so there are many parts, but only one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the foot, "I don't need you!" ²² No! Those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are really very important. ²³ And the parts of the body that we think are not worth much are the parts that we give the most care to. And we give special care to the parts of the body that we want to hide. ²⁴ The more beautiful parts of our body need no special care. But God put the body together and gave more honour to the parts that need it. ²⁵ God did this so that our body would not be divided. God wanted the different parts to care the same for each other. ²⁶ If one part of the body suffers, then all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honoured, then all the other parts share its honour.

²⁷ All of you together are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of that body. ²⁸ And in the church, God has given a place first to apostles, second to prophets, and third to teachers. Then God has given a place to those who do miracles, those who have gifts of healing, those who can help others, those who are able to lead, and those who can speak in different languages. ²⁹ Not all are apostles. Not all are prophets. Not all are teachers. Not all do miracles. ³⁰ Not all have gifts of healing. Not all speak in different languages. Not all interpret those languages. ³¹ But you should truly want to have the greater gifts.

How did your drawing go? Did you manage to draw a whole person?

In this letter that Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, he compares our human bodies to the group of people that make up a church – a group of believers. We all have special gifts or talents that we can give to the church, and all are as important as each other, no one can get everything done on their own, we all need each other to function properly, just as a human body needs all its parts. Some of us are good talkers, others listeners, some of us are great organisers and others have a talent for helping others. Some of us have the ability to bring joy, to allow us to see things from different perspectives. There are so many gifts and talents and not everyone has discovered theirs yet either. When Paul says we should truly want the greater gifts, he is talking about the gifts that will help the church grow, Paul has already made it clear that no one gift is better than another, but wants to encourage us as believers, to discover how we can best serve with the gifts we have been given.

Have a think about what gifts God has given you. Maybe you could make a list of your talents and then think how best you could use them in the place where you are now, to help grow God's kingdom. You could add it to your drawing of the body!

Let's talk to God now;

Lord God,

You are awesome!

You have provided us with all we need and the gifts and talents to help others too.

Help us to see how we can use these talents for you and the Kingdom of God.

Help us to recognise talents in others too.

Help us to work together for you, just as a body with all its different parts.

Amen.

Let's finish by saying the grace together:

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out your hands as if receiving a present)

The Love of God (Cross your hands over your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (hold hands together)

Be with us all, now and for evermore, Amen. (Bring thumbs together).

Here is a link for rend Collective song, Build your kingdom here:

<https://youtu.be/sbdJXKqVgtg>

Here is the link for the activity sheet from Roots. [activity-sheet-23-january-2022.pdf](#)
(rootsontheweb.com)