

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)

My Body

Do you want to discover the spiritual gifts that I have given to you? Do you want to be powerfully used by me? Do you want to have a role in building up my body? Do you want to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom? Do you want to bring glory to my name? Do you want to be able to store up treasure in heaven with me? Yes of course, I want all these things. I would be a fool if I did not desire to be used in these ways. Could I want or ask for anything better than to be used by you. Would there be any better use of my life than to be at your service? I think not. **I like the way you think. You have good desires in your heart.**

Do you know where you will be able to discover and use the spiritual gifts I have given to you? I am not certain. I need you to help me to answer that question. **You will discover and be able to use the spiritual gifts in my body. With that answer do you see any requirements?** I'm not sure, again I will need your help. **Well, first you need to be connected in my body. You needed to be rooted in my body. What does that mean to you?** I will never be able to discover and use my spiritual gifts if I remain isolated, largely disconnected, and not vitally rooted in your body. I can't discover and use my spiritual gifts, off by myself, in my own little self-contained world. **No, you cannot, that is correct.** I will be able to discover and use my spiritual gifts as I live in relationship with other believers in your body. **That is true. Let's be clear here. When we use the words, "My body", what are we talking about?** Your body is your church. **That's right. So, to be able to discover and use your spiritual gifts you will need to be connected and living in relationship with fellow believers in my church.** I get that, I understand. **That's good.**

So, you know where you will be able to discover and use your spiritual gifts. Yes, I do. **That's good. There are a few things of which you must also be certain.** What's that? **I have given you spiritual gifts. Everyone of my followers has been given spiritual gifts. Not one of my followers has been omitted, you included. Everyone has been given different gifts. Not everyone has the same gifts.** Why is that? **How would my body function if everyone had the same gifts?** Not, well. **Not at all. Don't waste your time and energy being envious of the spiritual gifts that others have been given.** I won't. **That's good. How do you think you will discover and use your spiritual gifts?** I'm not sure. **You will keep your eyes and ears open. Watch and listen, opportunities to be serve me will come to your attention.** Take a step a faith. **Engage in service. As you serve, you will discover what are and are not your spiritual gifts. Does that make sense?** Yes, it does. **Don't be discouraged as you first use your spiritual gifts. Why is that? You can be sure that your spiritual gifts will grow and develop and be refined and sharpened as you continue to use them to serve me.** That I will do, I will serve you! **That will be very good.**

Lord, I know you have given me spiritual gifts to be used in your body. Help me to discover and use all my spiritual gifts. I don't want any gift I have been given to go unused and wasted. Use my life to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

Promises*Many Form One Body*

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

NIV

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*We Are One Body*

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

ESV

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Many Parts Of One Body*

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

NLT

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Being Many, Are One Body*

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

NKJV

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Many, Are One Body*

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

NRSV

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*A Part Of His Body*

In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body,

MSG

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Are One Body*

For as in one physical body we have many parts (organs, members) and all of these parts do not have the same function or use, So we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah) and individually we are parts one of another [mutually dependent on one another].

AMP

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Every One Of Us To Make It Complete*

Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others.

TLB

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*Many Are One Body*

For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

NASB

Romans 12:4-5

Promises*We Are All One Body*

Each one of us has a body with many parts, and these parts all have different uses. In the same way, we are many, but in Christ we are all one body. Each one is a part of that body, and each part belongs to all the other parts.

NCV

Romans 12:4-5

Many Form One Body

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Promises – Romans 12:4-5

In Context: *Read Romans 12*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I know you have given me spiritual gifts to be used in your body. Help me to discover and use all my spiritual gifts. I don’t want any gift I have been given to go unused and wasted. Use my life to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

Why would the body of Christ not function well if everyone had identical spiritual gifts?

Why is it a foolish waste of time and energy being envious of other people’s spiritual gifts?

Why can you be sure you have been given spiritual gifts that need to be used in the body of Christ?

Why can you be certain that your spiritual gifts will need to be developed, and refined by constant use?

How is being connected in Christ’s body helping you to understand and use your spiritual gifts?

How has trial and error helped you to discover and use your spiritual gifts in the body of Christ?

How will the body of Christ suffer if you do not use the spiritual gifts you have been given?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Make every effort to discover and use your spiritual gifts in the body of Christ.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord has given you spiritual gifts to be used in His body.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how you are discovering and using your spiritual gifts.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you find your role and fulfill your function in the body of Christ.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will find my role and fulfill my function in your body.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I find my role and fulfill my function in your body?
