



*the*

*Word*

O Lord, Our God,

You have chosen to make Yourself known

Through Your Creation, Your Word, Your Son, and Your Spirit.

Now reveal Your glory to us and through us, the Church.

Speak to us, form us, lead us, dwell in us.

Teach us today how to love as Jesus loves,

To welcome the stranger, heal the sick, and care for the poor,

To bear good news, build bridges, and bring Your people home.

For Christ in us is the hope of glory.

May Your perfect will prevail in us this day,

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Amen.

ONE

AND

MANY

**UNITY AND DIVERSITY**

in the

**BODY OF CHRIST**

# One Body, One Spirit

1 Corinthians 12

- *12 Now about the gifts of the **Spirit**, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the **Spirit of God** says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the **Holy Spirit**.*
- *<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same **Spirit** distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.*
- *<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the **Spirit** is given for the common good.*

- *<sup>12</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one **Spirit** so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one **Spirit** to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.*

Holy Spirit

- *<sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the **breath of life**, and the man became a living being.*

*Genesis 2:7*

We are His perfect creation

The fall.

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4. **Prophets**: These holy men spoke, inspired by the Holy Spirit. For humanity to stop using the law in an external form and to make it internal too.

The incarnation of Jesus Christ,  
was possible by the Holy Spirit.

- *35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.*

Luke 1:35 (NIV)

God had a plan for humanity, to redeem us from our sin, to make us new, to have a new identity through Jesus Christ.

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1 Corinthians 12:12-14 (NIV)

We are part of something  
new!

- *<sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*

1 Corinthians 12:25-26 (NIV)

# Show the love to the world

- *<sup>31</sup> Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:31)*
- ***13** If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

## William Barclay on his commentary to the Corinthians said:

- *“Christ is no longer in this world in body; So if He want something done in the world, He has to find someone to do it. If a child needs to be teach, a teacher needs to do it; If the sick needs to be cured, a doctor or a surgeon needs to do the job; If Christ wants His story to be told, someone needs to tell the story. Literally, we have to be the body of Christ: hands that do their work, feet that can go and give the good news, a voice that speaks for him.”*