Sermon Outline

Key verse

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27

Variety is vital in the body of Christ

1. We are different by design

God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

1 Corinthians 12:18

2. Every part has a purpose

Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

1 Corinthians 12:15-16

3. We are connected for a reason

There should be no division in the body, but its parts should have equal concern for each other.

1 Corinthians 12:25

VARIETY

JUNE 15
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

Although there is great diversity in the body of Christ, we are connected to one another. Each part is important and has an essential function. There is beauty in our variety, and value in every part of the body. Praise God for his amazing design!

Ice breakers

- If you could only eat one type of food for the rest of your life—Italian, Mexican, breakfast, etc.—what would it be?
- What's your go-to role in a group project: leader, encourager, idea-generator, helper, planner, doer, snackbringer, silent observer, etc.

Dig Deeper

- Why do you think God chose to use the analogy of a body to describe the church?
- Describe yourself as a "part" of the body of Christ (hand, foot, eye, etc.) Why did you select that one?
- Have you ever been on a team (or part of a church) where you felt out of place or unsure of your role?
- What is your role in our core group? In our church?
- What are ways we can celebrate and affirm the unique "parts" in our church family?
- Paul humorously describes the foot wanting to be a hand or the ear wishing it were an eye. What might this look like in your life?
- Why is it difficult to embrace people who are different from us?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7. What is your spiritual gift and how are you using it?
- Verse 26 says, "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it." What does that practically look like? And how can we live that out in our core group?

Closing

In Christ's body, our variety isn't a weakness—it's how every part plays a vital role. God designed it so that each part matters and no one stands alone. And remember... Jesus is the head!