

## The Challenge of Differing Gifts

### I. The Foundation (12-13)

The Holy Spirit has united many different people into one body in Christ.

### II. The Illustration (14-26)

1. "I'm not a part of the body"
2. "I have no need of you"

The human body is a picture of the unity in diversity that God designs and that it can work well.

### III. The Application (27-31)

God's plan is for many spiritual gifts to work together in His church.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Have you felt disconnected or under used at church? Explain.
2. According to 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 what has united the many different members of the body of Christ, and how?  
What does this say about those who don't think they need to be a part of a church, or those who are divisive?

If you are a genuine believer you have "drunk of the Holy Spirit." Describe your awareness of His presence, and His work in and through you.

3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-20. Paul seems to reveal what some in the church were made to feel. What was it, and what was the reason?

How did Paul correct this wrong thinking?

The differences between people and their gifts can make things easier in the church, but also harder. Can you give an example of each?

4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-26. What was another wrong thinking and Paul's correction? (Verses 21-22)

In verses 23-24 Paul points out that some parts of our physical bodies are covered, and yet important, so given special care. What point is he making? (Verses 25-26)

Make a personal application of verses 14-26 to your life in the body of Christ at MBC.

5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-31. Paul reminds his readers again that they are part of the greater whole which is made up of many different giftings. What gifting do you bring to MBC? Is it being used, or how can we help that happen?