

# Together by Design: God's Plan for His Church

Metaphor #5 "Body"

June 13, 2021

*The church is where the Holy Spirit brings together believers in Jesus according to God's design.*

1. Don't **add** to the metaphor trying to be clever or cute
2. All six metaphors are about **relationships**
3. Relationships in the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:12-27)

## A. Wholeness/integrity/oneness in the Spirit (12-13)

*<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all (Ephesians 4:4-6).*

- Ethnic and socio-cultural **status** is transcended (John 4:7-10 and 7:37-38)

## B. Belonging (14-20)

- Inter **connect** ed

*"it would not cease to be part of the body . . ."*

- Interdependent (this is **funny** )

*"Where would the sense of hearing . . . smell be?"*

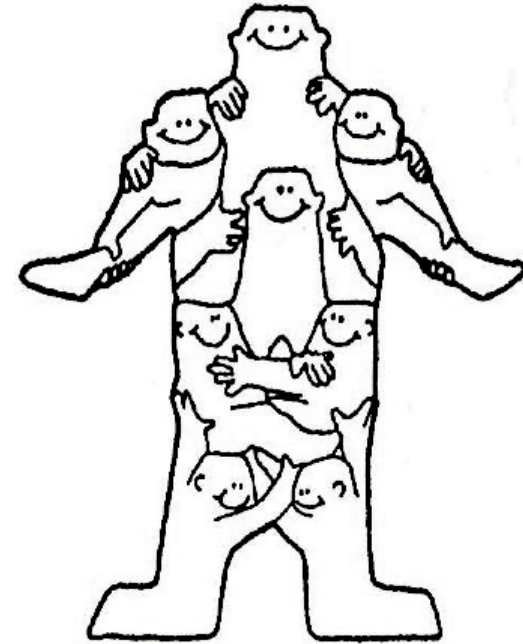
## C. **Mutuality** (21-26)

- Special honor —weaker; less honorable/presentable
- **Equal** concern—for all who suffer or rejoice (see also Rom. 12:15)

## D. Conclusion (27)

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."*

COLOR THIS PICTURE AND INDICATE WHICH PART IN THE BODY OF CHRIST DO YOU FIND YOURSELF?



Look up these references to the metaphor of the church as the body of Christ in the New Testament.

1. Romans 12:4-5
2. Ephesians 1:22-23
3. Ephesians 4:11-12 and 15-16
4. Colossians 1:18 and 2:19

NOTE: Many of the passages have to do with the importance of the diversity of spiritual gifts and responsibilities in the church.

- 1) What part has God assigned to you in His body, the church?
- 2) What help would you like in discovering and developing your role and responsibility at Silverton First Baptist?
- 3) Pray about your unique role in Christ's body and send an email to Pastor Tom [tom.s@silvertonfirstbaptist.org](mailto:tom.s@silvertonfirstbaptist.org) for more help.