



# All Christians' Fellowship International

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## *Interactive Sunday School Outline*

**TOPIC:** Everyone's Involved

**TEXT:** 1 Corinthians 12

**Instructions** - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

**Introduction** - Melba is totally dedicated to developing her gift of playing the oboe / clarinet. An orchestra is too restrictive for her progress in "oboism" because she must yield to too many other instruments. So, she has sought out other oboists and created an all-oboe orchestra. Not surprisingly, tickets for the first concert have moved very slowly. The church in Corinth was a collection of "soloists" who needed to learn to play in harmony. They had a nightmarish list of problems, including bitter strife, sexual immorality, and drunkenness at the Lord's Supper! Paul sets forth the picture of a church where everyone has a part and all parts fit together into a whole.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What is Paul's central message for the Christians in Corinth? How relevant is this advice to the church of today?
2. Contrast the Corinthians' previous lives as pagans and their present lives as Christian believers (vs. 1-3).
3. Given the common source of all spiritual gifts, what should be their results (vs. 4-7)? What factors might cause the outcome to be otherwise?
4. How do each of the gifts mentioned in verses 8-10 contribute to the unity of the church?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31. In what ways is the human body an appropriate metaphor / symbol for the church of Jesus Christ?

6. How should each of us be personally encouraged by the truth about gifts in verse 18?
7. According to Paul, how can we avoid divisions in the church (vs. 21-25)?
8. Look again at verses 21-25. In what ways can one fail to give honor to the weaker parts of the body of Christ?
9. What are some practical ways to give honor to those "parts of the body" which are typically regarded as "less honorable" (v. 23)?
10. Focus on verses 27-31. What do you consider to be spiritual gift(s). How will you seek "the greater gifts" (v. 31)?
11. How can one use spiritual gifts to strengthen community in the church?