

ONE BODY IN CHRIST

KEY CONCEPTS

Rom.12:4-5 - Many members but "One body in Christ"

- Many promises in the New Testament are related to us being in Christ
- To be in Christ is not only an abstract reality, it must be full reality: body, soul and spirit
- You cannot be in Christ without being integrated in His Body, the local church.
 - Individual members of each other - not separated
- In Christ we physically belong and operate within a "CORPORATE IDENTITY" = the Church
- THIS REVELATION BREAKS OUR INDIVIDUALISM AND EGO

1COR.12:12-13 - BODY FUNCTIONS

- 12 - As the body is made up of many members - so is Christ
- 13 - We were baptized (immersed) by one Spirit into one Body
 - How are we immersed into one Body?
- Can your body function without the full commitment of all its members?

THE TWO CHURCH MODELS

- **Traditional - Clergy Centered**
 - Ineffective ministry and spiritual growth of members
 - Ineffective linear corporate growth
- **Biblical - Body Centered**
 - Effective ministry and spiritual growth of all members
 - Effective exponential corporate growth

QUESTIONS WE NEED TO ANSWER

Do you think that the term "Body of Christ" is just a figure of speech or an expression of a spiritual reality?

How would you define the Body of Christ?

How do the Scriptures support your definition?

For you, what does it really mean to be a member of a local church?

Is it spiritually and practically important to be a member of a local church?

What do these Scriptures imply concerning our position and relationships within the local church?