

# SOME PILLARS OF CHURCH LIFE

## UNITY

*1 Corinthians 12:4-26*

### **There is One God!**

*1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

- ❑ When we remember that the God who works in us is the same One who works in all believers, it is harder to make divisions.
- ❑ Just because it is the same God does not mean that the same things must be done in all people. Our gifts will differ from person to person.
- ❑ Our greatest commonality is the one true God we all owe our lives to.

### **There is Now One Body of Christ**

*1 Corinthians 12:12-13*

- ❑ The typical things that might divide fallen humanity should not be an issue in the body of Christ.
- ❑ Ethnicity is no longer considered in the body. *Ephesians 2:11-18*
- ❑ Following one leader over another is wrong in the body. *1 Corinthians 1:10-12, 3:4-9*
- ❑ Playing favorites is violating the concept of a unified body. *James 2:1-11*

### **Diversity is Good, But Division is Not**

*1 Corinthians 12:14-26*

- ❑ We should glory in the diverse gifts that God gives to our body. He has given those gifts to people to enrich us.
- ❑ We slap Him in the face when we use those gifts to make divisions and disrupt unity.
- ❑ We are reminded that we need one another. No part of the body is complete without the other parts. Laugh about the eye talking to the hand, but pay attention to the point. No one is a Lone Ranger. I need you and you need me.

### **So What?**

- ❑ Unity is to be greatly desired. Pursue it passionately! *Ephesians 4:3-6*
- ❑ Guard against anything that might create divisions.
- ❑ Guard against grumbling and complaining against the body. If there are issues to be addressed, by all means talk about it with the necessary people, but do not grumble. *Philippians 2:14-15*
- ❑ Remember that the mission of the church is to use all the gifts to strengthen the whole body.

### **Implication Questions**

1. Are you seeking the help of the rest of the body?
2. Are you contributing your gifts to the body?
3. Do you view diversity in the body as a great blessing?
4. Do you have anything in your mind that would prevent unity in our body? What must you do to take care of that as soon as possible?
5. How do you view other Christians who do not attend Crossroads?