

Week 10--November 22  
Am I part of the mission team?

**Focus**

God has intentionally designed the church to continue Jesus' mission. We all have a place in that mission and are one in Christ as we live it out. At Hamblen, we are specific about that mission. Our church exists to grow active followers of Jesus Christ and build his community. God uses you to make that mission a reality in people's lives.

**Scripture Reading--1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

**Questions for the Journey**

This text is about unity, but to stop there would miss the point. The unity designed by God has a purpose, the Body of Christ *functions*. Each of us has a part in it together to continue the mission of Jesus.

- What gifts or functions do you bring to Hamblen Church? Everyone brings something. You might think you don't bring a gift or function, but you absolutely do. This is how God works.
- How will God use you in the Body of Christ to grow active followers of Jesus Christ and build his community.
- What can God do through our church if we function together in unity? What could the future look like for our neighbors, our city, or our world because of Hamblen Church?

**Drawing Closer**

- Look into the mirror again this week. Think about the function of each body part and how each part can be used to continue the mission of Jesus (Eyes to see the vulnerable, ears to listen to the lonely, arms to carry the burdens of others...)
- Lie on the floor facedown or faceup. Explicitly and intentionally surrender your body to God. Take time to go over each part of your body, offering everything to God.

We used portions of *Discipleship Essentials* by Greg Ogden in this resource. For an even deeper exploration of your journey as a follower of Jesus, check out Chapter 20.