



**What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere, who gather together in their communities to worship and serve God.**

**Week 18:** December 8, 2024

**Bible Story Point:** Paul told the believers in the Corinthian church to come together because of the Gospel..

**Key Passage:** Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12)

**Sunday Night:** (Preschool & Children)

**We are part of One Church** (1 Corinthians 12)

The twelfth chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Corinth is known for its role in encouraging the church body toward unity. Steering us away from division and partiality, this passage reminds us that we each have a role to play in Christ's mission of sharing the gospel. Our differences can serve to strengthen us, if only we walk together in obedience to Jesus' mission through the power of the Holy Spirit.

How can we best determine how to serve within the body of Christ? What does unity look like in the modern-day church?

It can often be difficult to determine how we can serve within the church. We might even feel like the service we have to offer is unimportant. Yet, Paul wrote to encourage the Corinthian church to remember that all roles within the body of Christ are indispensable. As we seek to serve within the church we can consider our interests, passions, and giftings, which are given to us by God for His glory. Like Paul wrote in verse 17, if we all try to take on the same role within the church, we do not function in the ways God designed us. Therefore, we can trust that the gifts and interests God has given us play an important role in the purpose of His church and in the edification of the saints toward gospel-centered unity.

Though we may not all be called to be pastors, we might be given the roles of Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, camera operators, sound engineers, bakers, meal deliverers, and so on for our churches. Paul calls us to pursue unity in the body, even amidst our diverse giftings in the church. He reminds us that the same Spirit is active within all believers, yet working uniquely within each of us as He calls us to serve for our common good. We can rejoice that God uses diverse people with various giftings to demonstrate how the Spirit unites us all to one another through Christ.

As you discuss the story with your kids, remember that every member of the body of Christ, including you and any of your kids who have trusted in Jesus, have an essential role to play in building up God's church! As you boldly proclaim these truths of the gospel, pray that your family will pursue unity and seek how they can serve within the body of Christ.

- Who wrote this letter to the church in Corinth? Paul
- How do we know Jesus is our Lord and Savior? Through the Holy Spirit
- What is the Body Paul is talking about? The Church—The Christian Church that began from the Disciples
- Who is the head of the Church? Jesus
- Name different roles in the church that need our service for the church to do ministry
- How you serve as a family?

**Practice:** Say (Memorize) Key passage

**Pray:** Thank God for the body of believers you serve with. Ask God to help you determine the gifts he's provided you with and to blend in to the community of the church.

### Wednesday Night December 11 (Awana Awards at 7:10 in Gym)

**Cubbies** – Bear Hug 14 John 10:27 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”

#### Sparks:

**Hang Glider** Red Jewel 2.1– Return Flight – Genesis 1:1, in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.  
AND Red Jewel 2.2 – John 17:17, Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

**Wing Runner** – Psalm 23:1-6, The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you or with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

**Sky Stormer** – 1 John 4:15, Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

**T & T's** – 2.7 The Bible is Our Guide

Psalm 119-105, Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path.

### Saturday Night: (Preschool & Children)

Take a few minutes to debrief last Sunday's lesson.

Preview for Sunday, December 15

#### Paul became a Christian (Acts 9:1–19)

- What was Saul's job? Punish Christian's
- Where was he going and why? To Damascus, to punish Christians
- Who did Saul meet? Jesus in a bright light, Saul was made blind after seeing the light.
- Who helped Saul see again? Ananias

#### Upcoming Activities:

December 9 Mom's Bible Study 9AM in Fellowship Hall (Childcare available - contact Jeanet Bullock)

December 11 Awana Clubs (Awana Awards at 7:10 in Gym)

December 12 Pickle Ball and Walking 6–8PM

#### Christmas Celebrations

December 1 Hope—Christmas List for Joseph's Locker and Brazos Pregnancy Center

December 8 Peace—Pass on peace to our Community

December 14 Christmas in the Park (Acton Place Park—Kids sing at celebration 4PM)

Christmas Party Childcare 5pm to 9pm

December 15 Joy—Share the gift of Joy—Kids will pass out cookies during Community Time

December 22 Love—Love your neighbor—Christmas Cards

Caroling in nearby Assisted and Nursing Homes Meet at Church 3:30PM

