

The Missing Piece: The Church is a Body
“Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.”

The church is a flock, a bride, an embassy, and a family.

The church is also a body.

The overriding purpose of each believer and the church is that we would live to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1: 6, 12, 14

But what is our specific, individual purpose that produces His glory?

To answer this, the Bible blends two different teachings together.

- First, you have been given a spiritual gift from God.
- Second, that gift is uniquely purposed by God so that you may use it in your Holy Spirit appointed place in the body.

Because our spiritual gifts are all different, and because our personalities are different, it makes the exercise of them even more unique, so the Bible emphasizes . . .

- Love, humility, peace, and unity.
Ephesians 4:2-3
- That it is God who decides who gets which gift.
1 Corinthians 12:11
- That each part of the body is indispensable.
1 Corinthians 12:15-22

Ephesians 4 answers our questions about our gifted place in the body of Christ and how we work together for the praise of God’s glory.

- Who? v. 7
- What? v. 11
- Why? v. 12
- For how long? v. 13
- Any other reasons? v. 14
- Is there an easier way to say it? v. 15-16
- What are the results? 1 Corinthians 14:24-25