

**Sermon: A Serving Church.**  
**Series: Church on Mission.**

**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-31.**  
**Date: August 24, 2025**

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) Where in this passage do we see the sovereignty (control) of God displayed in the church and in the gifts of the church?

**2. What does this passage teach us about us?**

a) Read verses 14-21. Are you more likely to feel inferior, like you don't fit into the church ("because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body") or superior, like you don't need the church ("I have no need of you")? Can you explain why?

b) Read verse 7 again. Have you ever considered what your gifts are? Are you using your spiritual gifts for the common good?

**3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

a) In verse 31, Paul speaks of the "more excellent way," love. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. How does his teaching about love point us to God's love for us? Why is it imperative to start with knowing you are loved by Christ BEFORE you enter into serving?

**APPLICATION**

a) Every Christian is part of the body of Christ (his limbs and organs). How does this impact how we are to treat other believers? Based on this, is there anything that needs to change in how you treat others in the church?

b) Read 1 Peter 4:10-11. What truth(s) stands out to you from these verses? What can you apply to your life from this summary about gifts?

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for his sovereign control over the church.
- Confess ways that you have felt superior or inferior regarding your gifts and your place in the church. • Thank Jesus for his indwelling love that allows us to serve from love.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help/allow you to use your gifts "for the common good."