

# 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26-31

For Reading and Pantomiming

Arranged by David A. Douthett from the New Living Translation

The human body has many parts,  
but the many parts make up one whole body.

*All stand fanned out; jazz hands!  
All form a single file line facing congregation*

So it is with the body of Christ.  
Some of us are Jews,  
some are Gentiles,  
some are slaves,  
and some are free.  
But we have all been baptized into one body by one  
Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

*Half the group steps out stage right, waves  
Other half comes out stage left, waves  
All form up side x side, 1/2 hold up hands, as if  
chained; then other half lift hands up and out  
All do wavy hands to the front like water  
then sweep hands up, looking up*

Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one  
part.

*Huddle low in front*

If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because  
I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a  
part of the body.

*One stands apart, waves off the rest dismissively*

*Group gathers in the "foot"*

And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body  
because I am not an eye," would that make it any  
less a part of the body?

*Another stands apart to other side, dismisses group*

*Group gathers in the "ear"*

If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear?

*All stand together, scanning the horizon....*

Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you  
smell anything?

*All stand together, listening....*

But our bodies have many parts, and God has put  
each part just where he wants it. How strange a body  
would be if it had only one part!

*One arranges the rest of the group in a line, one at a  
time, as if doing a jigsaw puzzle.*

Yes, there are many parts, but only one body.

*All scatter to the sides*

The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need  
you."

*Two come to center. One offers to shake hands, the  
other refuses, disgusted. Pass each other, exit.*

The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."

*Two come from one side, one from the other. The two  
wave excitedly at the one, who shuns the two,  
holding the nose as if to say, "you stink!"*

All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church:

first are apostles,  
second are prophets,  
third are teachers,  
then those who do miracles,  
those who have the gift of healing,  
those who can help others,  
those who have the gift of leadership,  
those who speak in unknown languages.

Are we all apostles?  
Are we all prophets?  
Are we all teachers?  
Do we all have the power to do miracles?  
Do we all have the gift of healing?  
Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages?  
Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages?  
Of course not!

So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.

*All line up side x side at rear of platform*

*For the following list, actors will step forward, strike a pose as noted, then step back in line:*

*\*Superhero stance*

*\*"Speaks" to congr, points dramatically to future*

*\*"Teaches", indicating imaginary black board*

*\*Waves hands, as if gathering the "Force"*

*\*(2) One checks pulse and temp of another*

*\*Shows some muscle, acts to carry something*

*\*Waves arm in a "Come on!" kind of way*

*\*(2) One "speaks", the other looks confused*

*All do the above all together in unison on cue  
(Perhaps, getting confused along the way)*

*\*Turn to each other, "explaining"*

*Look back and forth at each other, then dismissive waves*

*Shake hands with each other in a helpful, friendly way*