WHY THE CHURCH IS CALLED THE BODY OF CHRIST… IT'S IMMENSELY SIGNIFICANT

serve
November 15, 2026

KEY SCRIPTURE

- Luke 22:19
- 1 Corinthians 12:13
- John 16:7
- John 16:13-15
- John 14:26
- Psalm 139:1-6
- Romans 5:6-8
- Ephesians 4:1-6
- Luke 4:18-19

KEY POINTS

- Through Christ's first body (fully God, fully man), He accomplished redemption: the forgiveness of sin and defeat of death.
- Through the Holy Spirit, Christ enters His Second Body (the Church), & He's the head.
- Each true believer is a member of His body, empowered by His Spirit with gifts to help other members to mature until the church functions increasingly like Jesus.
- The maturing Body of Christ, when following its Head's (Christ) marching orders, is the most powerful force on earth.
- Through the Body of Christ, the Gospel offers the answer to our deepest needs:
    - The Security of being fully known, and loved anyway
    - The Significance of a life that matters; eternal impact on another
    - The Belonging to the most Significant Circle; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, fleshed out and experienced through Christ's second Body, His Church
- The True love of Christ does not sacrifice the Holiness of God by imitating "woke" culture's definition of love.
- True love is defined by God's Holy Word inspired by God's Holy Spirit through Jesus's Apostles and Prophets, where Sin & Life are defined by God, not the changing culture.
- A maturing church is watched by the entire realm of spiritual beings, learning of God's manifold (many-colored, multi-faceted) wisdom of God that He loves the likes of us.
- As Christ's Second Body, we carry on His mission until His return.

DISCUSSION

- Read Luke 22:19: "This is my body…" Can you personalize it? "…given to _____"
- How does the thought that you are part of the "Second Body of Christ" impact you?
- Read Psalm 139:1-6 slowly. "such knowledge is too _____ (wonderful) for me." What word would you use if you can't use the word wonderful?
- How does Romans 5:6-8 help? How about Ephesians 2:4-7?
- Can you relate to the need to belong? Was there a time you felt "left out"? What was your coping device? Withdrawing? Attempts to fit in? Compromise of conscience?
- Does the truth that you belong in Father, Son and Spirit and Christ's Body help?
- How does God gifting you to help others grow in Christ meet that need to matter?
- Can we know that we matter and walk in humility at the same time?
- Have you learned to consciously act in your gifting, realizing that it is Jesus in you, touching/serving another person or the Body?