

# **PBC Growing in Christ**

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**January 10, 2021**

# Class Norms

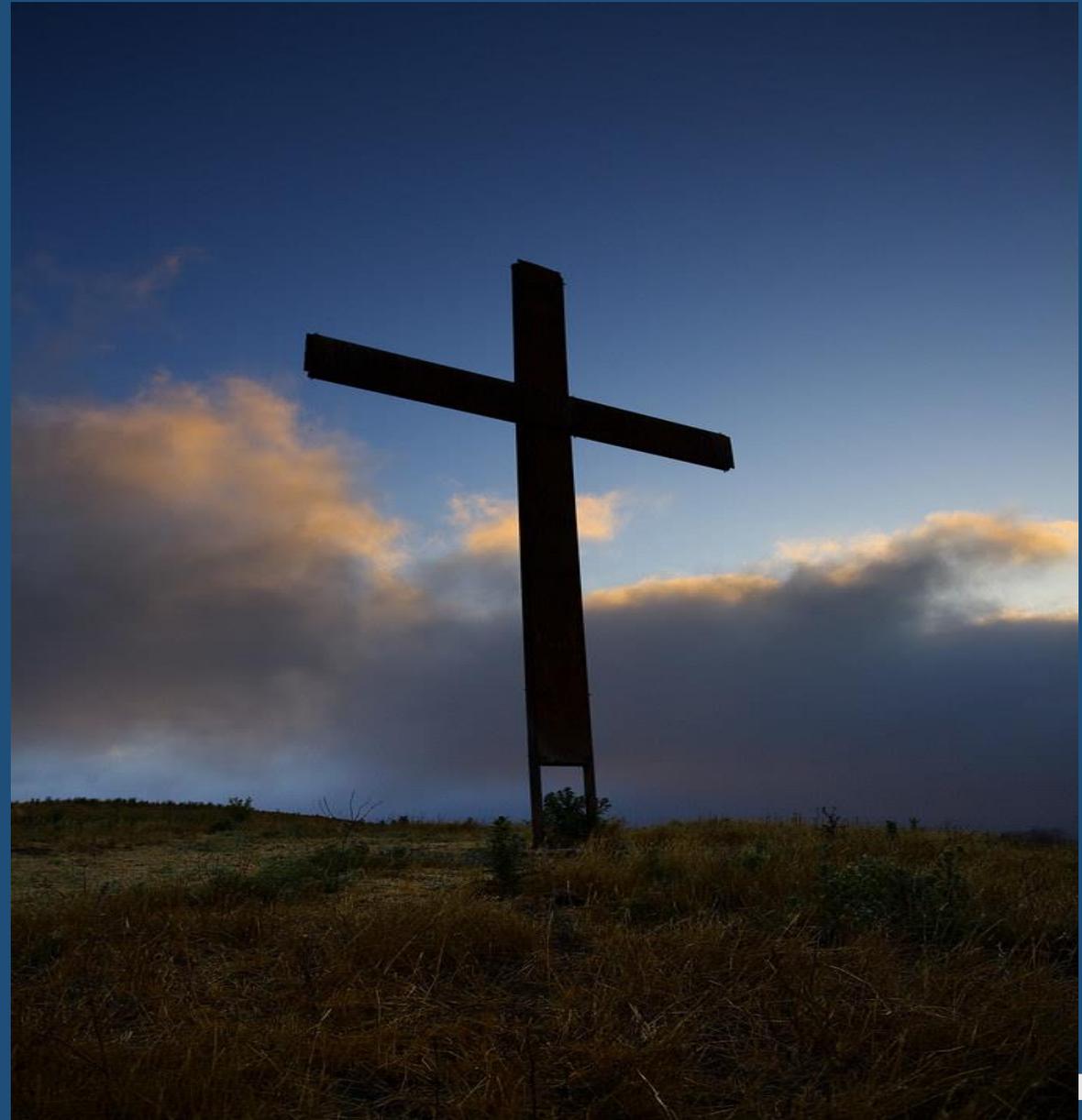
A large, dark wooden cross stands in a field of tall grass. The cross is silhouetted against a sky with soft, golden light from a setting or rising sun. The clouds are scattered and catch the light, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

- Place your microphone on mute.
- Use the chat room. Located in the upper right of the screen.
- Interact in the class just raise your hand. The instructor will take you off mute.
- Technology may not always work....please be patient.
- God is always in the midst
- Enjoy the class.

# Growing in Christ

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- Every day is an opportunity to grow in the word.
- Growing in Christ will tackle real life issues, while studying the bible for its answers.
- Examine challenges believers and non-believers face every day.
- Growing in Christ bible study will focus on how Christians face challenges and how the bible addresses these issues.



# Growing in Christ

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*To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:12-13 (NIV)*





# Connecting to Christ's Body

## 1 Corinthians 12:12-24

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**When have you seen one person's success depend on others?**

# Scripture

## Connecting to Christ's Body

### 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

**12 For just as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also is Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all given one Spirit to drink.**



## **Connecting to Christ's Body 1 Corinthians 12:12-13**

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**What are the benefits of having different parts in the body or church?**

**Despite differences what are the common things believers have?**

**What are the consequences of disunity in the church?**

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# Connecting to Christ's Body

## 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

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- Paul reminded the church that they were all baptized into a single body. While believers come from different races, cultures, and socioeconomic levels, our differences don't threaten the church's wholeness. We are one. Coming from all our diverse backgrounds, we don't become uniform and exactly alike—but we do enter into a single body, Christ's body.
- Christians must avoid two common errors:
  - Being too proud of their abilities
  - Thinking they have nothing to give to the body of believer.
- One the essential truth that all believers have faith in Christ as Lord and Savior. We don't lose our individual identities but we have an overriding oneness in Christ.

# Scripture

## Connecting to Christ's Body

### 1 Corinthians 12:14-18

14 Indeed, the body is not one part but many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I'm not a hand, I don't belong to the body," it is not for that reason any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I'm not an eye, I don't belong to the body," it is not for that reason any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God has arranged each one of the parts in the body just as he wanted.

# Connecting to Christ's Body

## 1 Corinthians 12:14-18

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**In what ways is the church like a human body?**

**What are some of the ways you were created to benefit the body of Christ?**



# Connecting to Christ's Body

## 1 Corinthians 12:14-18



- While serving in a specific role does carry unique responsibilities, and everyone ministers according to his or her spiritual gift(s), we do share some responsibilities. For example, every member of the body is to pray for other members, to give and support the ministry of the church, and to share our faith and disciple others.
- The church is made up of many members that function in different roles and have unique responsibilities, but no one member could function effectively without the rest of the body. Even those serving in prominent or visible roles can't be effective apart from the ministry of the whole church. In an effective church, everyone works together for the cause of Christ.

# Scripture

## Connecting to Christ's Body

### 1 Corinthians 12:19-24

19 And if they were all the same part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" Or again, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that are weaker are indispensable. 23 And those parts of the body that we consider less honorable, we clothe these with greater honor, and our unrespectable parts are treated with greater respect, 24 which our respectable parts do not need. Instead, God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the less honorable.



# Connecting to Christ's Body 1 Corinthians 12:19-24

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**How can our group help one another recognize and utilize our gifts?**

**Where do you have opportunities to maximize your connection with other believers in the body of Christ?**

# Connecting to Christ's Body

## 1 Corinthians 12:19-24

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- In a healthy body, the systems all work together, supporting one another. In a healthy church, members not only work together, but they value, appreciate, and depend on others who have different roles. The members of the church work hard to practice true Christian fellowship.
  - Fellowship is an intentional choice to value other believers—even those who are vastly different from us—because God desires to use His church with its diverse members to aid your growth in Christ. Such fellowship sometimes takes effort, but it's worth it. They need your involvement in their lives, and you need theirs.
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# GROWING IN CHRIST IN ACTION

JANUARY 10, 2021

- **Show up.** Spiritual growth calls for interaction with other believers, which calls for more than just listening to podcasts or live-streaming a church service. Make church attendance a priority.
- **Sign up.** Look for areas in your church where you can give of your time or financial resources. Pray specifically, asking God to reveal your spiritual gifts and how you can use them to support the church.
- **Step out.** Immerse yourself in a new culture and serve a people group that is unfamiliar to you. Be part of a mission work that serves the body of Christ in another culture or in another setting.

# Final thoughts about Connecting to Christ's Body

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- Paul argued for diversity of gifts and acceptance of the full range of gift that God gives to his people.
  - No one should feel superior about his or her gifts; instead all should use their gifts to willingly serve.
  - No one should discount the contribution of another person, no matter how insignificant it may seem.
  - We should not be dissatisfied with the gifts God has given us.
  - In love treat everyone gifts-your included as valuable to God.
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# Resources

- **Baptism of the Holy Spirit: Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:32-33; Acts 1:5; 11:15**
- **ICor. 1:10-17**
- **BIBLE-Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth**
- **[Bible.com](http://Bible.com)**



Next Week: January 17, 2021  
**Joining God's Work**

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John 15:1-8

When has a task looked bigger  
than your ability to get it done?



# God Bless You!

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