



**Hill Cliffe Study Guide**  
**Pulling Together**  
**#1 Togetherness**  
**Sunday 23 June 2024**

1. What impacted you most from the Sermon on Sunday?

*In 1 Corinthians 12 Paul uses a powerful metaphor for Christian Church Togetherness  
He likens the church to a human body*

- Many different parts of the body with differing characteristics and functions and abilities
- Intentionally designed to be joined together and mutually-dependent
- All the various parts working together with our Head
- Sharing with one another in our suffering and in our rejoicing

**Please read 1 Corinthians 12.4-27**

2. With reference to v's4-5: Take time to recognize and give God thanks for the different kinds of gifts given by God, and the different kinds of service done for God represented by the people in your small group.
3. How might Satan try to discourage God's people or divide the church over the issue of God's diverse gifts, or our diverse service for God? How can we overcome (see v's23-25)?
4. With reference to v7: How is this attitude different to the attitude of the world? (see also 1 Peter 4.10)
5. With reference to v13: Unity in the Body of Christ, overcoming all kinds of social, racial, economic barriers is God's intention. Why is this difficult & why does it matter?
6. With reference to v's17-20: How does this encourage us to embrace diversity in the church family rather than fear it?

With reference to v21:

*In the Body of Christ, God has designed and intended for us to be dependent on each other – to need each other so that we can function properly - Just like a human body.*

*In our wider society in the UK, neediness and dependence is associated with weakness / powerlessness / insecurity, whereas self-sufficiency is associated with strength / power / security*

*Our society encourages a spirit of self-sufficiency*

*God encourages a spirit of mutual dependence*

7. Why might Christians raised in our culture find it hard to live God's way in the body of Christ?
8. Sometimes Christians are very willing to serve others, or help others out, or pray for others, or give money to others, but are reluctant to express their need to others, or be served by others, or prayed for, or supported, or helped by others. Why might that be?
9. With reference to v's26-27: How do you feel about being part of the Body of Christ at Hill Cliffe, and what's the next step for you in playing your part in it?