



Seeker Study 9 | **Added to the Body of Christ**

Purpose: *Encourage the seeker that they will not be left to fend for themselves after baptism. Instead, Jesus baptises us into the body of the church (1 Corinthians 12:12-13) to be joined by a team of like-minded disciples in devotion to Him. These brothers and sisters are meant to be a continual source of encouragement in our walk with Christ; even more good news! Most of us in America are used to living isolated, individualistic lives. In the Body of Christ, we shift from individualism to community and family. Our fellowship is with Jesus and one another, and always takes place in the light. (1 John 1:3-10)*

Scriptures:

Acts 2:40-47 *The first 3,000 converts joined together in devotion to the Apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. A beautiful view of the early church.*

Q: What would that church look like in modern society? How would it be received?

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 *The Spirit baptises us into the body of Jesus, his church. The church consists of distinct yet unified parts, just like a human body. God, Himself, has arranged it this way. We are the church; each of us must actively look for our unique way to support and unify the body we belong to.*

Q: How will you help build up the body? What unique gifts/talents do you have to offer?

Ephesians 4:1-16 *Making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the church requires humility, patience, gentleness, and selflessness. We maintain unity on the essentials of doctrine - one Lord, one faith, one baptism. God provides specific offices in the church in order to prepare us for works of service which build up the body.*

Hebrew 10:22-25 *After being washed in baptism, we need the continual support of brothers and sisters to help us stay the course. Prepare in advance how you will spur on fellow Disciples in the fellowship. Also prepare to receive biblical advice and mentorship in love from brothers and sisters.*

Q: Why is missing meetings of the body described as a bad habit?

Q: Why and when do we meet?

Hebrews 3:12-14 *We each have the responsibility to ensure no one in the body has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from God. Daily encouragement helps everyone stand firm until the end.*

Acts 2:36-41 *God loves a cheerful giver. Our giving supports the body as we reach out to a world in need of Jesus!*

Additional Scriptures: *1 John 1:3-10, Ephesians 2:19-20, Romans 12:4-8, John 17:20-26, Colossians 1:18, Colossians 2:18-19, John 13:34-35*