

Friday, June 25  
Prayer Meeting  
Karen Ho

## “Characteristic of the Body of Christ” | Devotion on 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

- Key verse: If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.
- Vs 12-13 – Paul developed an extended metaphor of the church as Christ’s body. The body is one unit, yet has many parts. It’s unity in diversity. The Corinthian church was made up of believers from different ethnic, social and economical background. So they could easily understand the diversity part.
- Vs 14-20 – Paul went on to explain the many parts of a body and their usage. God has purposely arranged each part in the body as he wanted them.
- Vs 21-25 – yet each part is very much interrelated to one another; each one is vitally important to the whole body and cannot be ignored.
- Vs 26 – If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. This is characteristic of the body; the way the body should function; the way the body work effectively.
- Vs 27-31a – each one is a part and should pursue the greatest gift – Love.
- What I get out of it: For a church to able to attract non believers and spread the gospel, it must possess the characteristic of the body – Unity in diversity with love.
  
- Questions to ponder
  - 1 . Are we there yet? – Is Gilead a healthy body full of life?
  - 2 . How can you help if the suffering part is not asking for help? Are prayers sufficient? Anything more substantial to do?
  - 3 . Will Gilead family open to visits so we can know each other more?
  - 4 . If not, how can we?
  - 5 . What are the real essentials of church?
  - 6 . Can the church function with missing parts? Are we confusing the essentials with the trivial?