



Week 6
Sermon Series: Rich Spiritual Worship
Sermon Title: *"Share the Load"*
Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 12:21-31
Study Handout Week of: October 10, 2021
Group Week of: October 17, 2021
Sermon Date: October 24, 2021

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Companionship – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Day 2	Beatitudes – Matthew 5:1-12
Day 3	The Sinful Woman – Luke 7:36-50
Day 4	The Leper – Matthew 8:1-4
Day 5	Bearing Another's Burdens – Gal 6:1-6

The Text

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²²On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) Explain the purpose of Paul's three examples in verses 22-23.
- 3) How are members of the body of Christ to see one another based on this passage?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Paul begins by reminding us that one member of the body cannot say to another, "I don't need you." While a Christian would rarely go so far as to say "I don't need you" we have many ways of letting people know they aren't important, aren't our priority, or aren't truly welcomed. Are there certain spiritual gifts, or certain kinds of people, that you have seen undervalued in this way at West Side Church?

- 2) The truth is that the parts that seem weaker are indispensable. What happens to a church when only certain people are focused on? What happens to a church when only certain gifts are utilized and empowered?

- 3) How can you personally engage more in practicing your spiritual gifts? How can you personally shift the culture of West Side Church so that we become a church that celebrates gifts that are not typically celebrated, and seeks to include people who are typically or historically pushed out?

- 4) God has intentionally put together each member of His body. That means you are here at West Side Church to fulfill a specific purpose and function. That means you have been specifically called and placed here by the God of the Universe! That is a big deal!
 - i. What is your job? If you know it, how does knowing that it has been assigned by God help you in that role?

 - ii. If you do not know what your job is and if you are not serving, what does that mean for the rest of the body? What is your effect upon God's body?

- 5) The body is to both rejoice and suffer together. Write down something going on in your life, whether something to rejoice in or a trial of suffering. Share it with your Life Group. As a group take a moment in prayer to rejoice/suffer with one another. Then, as a group, consider ways in which you can extend that rejoicing or suffering into the rest of life.

- 6) We are part of Christ's body. He is our Head! When we find it difficult to serve, or challenging to find our gifts, we can continue in that work because we do it for Christ, and for Him there is nothing we won't do. Remember Christ as your head, and then write out a commitment to serve His body for His glory below.