



DAY 3 — SATURDAY, 4 APRIL 2026

SESSION 6 : ONE BODY, MANY ROOTS

TIME: 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM



"We are many parts of one body, and WE ALL belong to EACH OTHER." Romans 12:5

Four horizontal lines for writing notes.

Church- Rooted as a family.

A tree with many roots stands strong.
A church with many roots grows deep.
God never designed us to grow alone—He planted us in **a body, a family, a community.**

1. Rooted in Fellowship.

Acts 2:42-47

The early church shows us what deep-rooted community looks like.



A. "They devoted themselves..."

Fellowship requires commitment

- Teaching
- Fellowship
- Breaking of bread
- Prayer



These are the four roots of spiritual community.

B. "All the believers were together"

Presence matters

Unity is not accidental; it is intentional.



C. "They shared everything..."

Generosity is a fruit of deep roots

A spiritually rooted church becomes a sharing church.



D. "They ate with glad and sincere hearts"

Joy grows in community

Isolation breeds fear; fellowship breeds joy.

The church in Antioch (Acts 11:19-26)

A diverse, united, generous community.



- **The Context:** After the initial explosion of the church in Jerusalem (Acts 2), the movement spread to Antioch. This was a diverse, pagan city full of people who normally wouldn't speak to each other—Jews, Greeks, Romans, and Africans.
- **The Fellowship:** In **Acts 11:19-30**, we see this "rock" in action. When a famine was predicted to hit the believers in Judea, the diverse believers in Antioch didn't just pray for them; they immediately took up a collection.
- **The Connection:** They were so deeply connected to people they had never met that they shared their finances across borders. It was in Antioch that people first called them "Christians" (little Christs) because their fellowship was so unlike anything the world had ever seen. They lived out **Acts 2:47**, having "favour with all the people."



The "Company of Burning Hearts" (The Moravians)

- **The Context:** In the 1720s, a group of Christian refugees from various denominations settled on the estate of Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf in Germany. Because they came from different backgrounds, they fought constantly. They were the opposite of "rooted."
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- **The Shift: In 1727**, they decided to stop arguing and start praying. They committed to a "Hourly Intercession"—a prayer meeting that ended up lasting 100 years, 24 hours a day. * **The Rooted Fellowship:** This constant prayer and "breaking of bread" together created a bond so strong that when they heard of slaves in the West Indies who needed the Gospel, members of their community actually offered to sell themselves into slavery just to be able to reach them.
- **The Connection:** Just like the early church in Acts 2, their "fellowship" wasn't a social club; it was a launchpad. Because they were rooted together in prayer and shared life, they sent out more missionaries in 20 years than the rest of the church had in 200 years.

E. Fellowship Application

- Show up
- Share life
- Pray together
- Eat together
- Serve together

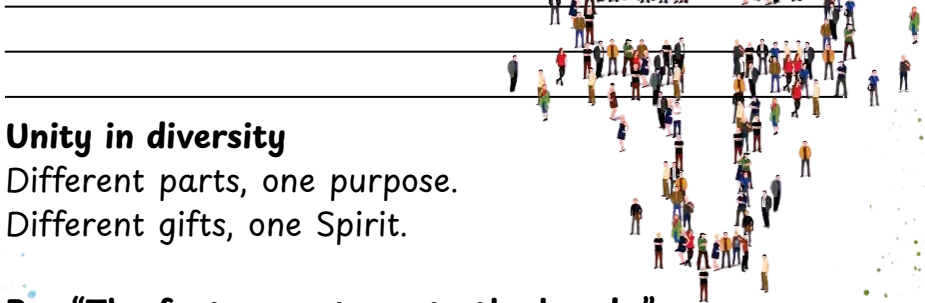


2. Rooted in Unity.

- **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

Paul describes the church as a *body*—one body, many members.

A. “The body is one...”



Unity in diversity

Different parts, one purpose.
Different gifts, one Spirit.

B. “The foot cannot say to the hand...”

No comparison

Comparison kills unity.
Every part matters.

C. “The eye cannot say to the hand...”

No superiority

Pride kills unity.
No one is unnecessary.

D. “If one suffers, all suffer...”

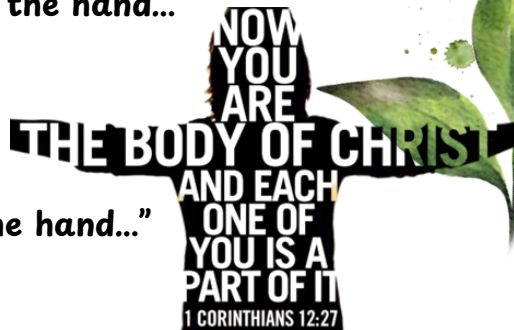
Shared pain

Unity means carrying one another’s burdens.

E. “If one is honoured, all rejoice...”

Shared joy

- Unity means celebrating one another’s victories.



Nehemiah Rebuilding the Wall

- **The Context:** The walls of Jerusalem were in ruins, and the people were discouraged. Nehemiah arrived to lead the rebuild, but the task was too big for any one person or group.

The Unity: If you read **Nehemiah 3**, it is a long list of different people—priests, perfume-makers, goldsmiths, and merchants—all working side-by-side.

- The **Priests** worked on the Sheep Gate (The "Spirit" of the body).
- The **Goldsmiths** worked on another section "Hands" of the body).
- **The Connection:** Each person stayed at their specific post. If the perfume-maker had tried to do the priest's job, or if the goldsmith had said, "I'm too important to carry stones," the wall would have had a gap. Because they were **rooted in the unity** of a single goal, the wall was finished in just 52 days.



The Lesson: Just like 1 Corinthians 12 says, the "weaker" or "smaller" parts of the wall were just as vital as the gates. Unity was their strength.



- **The "Miracle on the Hudson"**
- **The Context:** In 2009, US Airways Flight 1549 lost both engines after hitting a flock of birds. Captain "Sully" Sullenberger had to ditch the plane in the freezing Hudson River.
- **The Unity:** This is often called a "Miracle of Unity."
 - The **Pilots** stayed calm to steer.
 - The **Flight Attendants** worked with precision to evacuate.
 - The **Passengers** (the "parts of the body") helped the elderly and children first rather than panicking.
 - The **Ferry Captains** on the river saw the plane and immediately raced toward it.
- **The Connection:** Every single person—from the air traffic controllers on the ground to the divers jumping from helicopters—acted as a single organism. Because they were "rooted" in the singular mission of saving lives, **all 155 people survived.**

The Lesson: It was a perfect picture of verse 25: "That there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other."



F. Unity Application

- Celebrate differences
- Honour each gift
- Carry burdens
- Reject comparison
- Protect unity

3. Rotted in the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:1-6

Unity is not created by us—it is **kept** by us.

A. "Walk worthy..."

Unity begins with character

- Humility
- Gentleness
- Patience
- Bearing with one another in love

These are the roots of unity.

B. "Make every effort..."

Unity requires work. Unity is not automatic; it must be guarded.

C, "One body, one Spirit..."

Unity is spiritual

We are united by:

- One hope
- One Lord
- One faith
- One baptism
- One God and Father



D. Unity is not uniformity

We don't have to be the same to be one.

The Appointment of the Seven (Acts 6:1-7)

- **The Conflict:** In the early church, a massive argument broke out. The Greek-speaking Jews felt their widows were being overlooked in favour of the Hebrew-speaking widows. It was a moment that could have split the church permanently.

- **The Spiritual Solution:** Instead of using politics or power to settle it, the Apostles asked the community to choose seven men who were "**full of the Spirit and wisdom.**"

- **The Result:** These men, rooted in the Spirit rather than their own cultural biases, served everyone equally. Because they chose "humility and patience" (Ephesians 4:2) over tribalism, the conflict was healed, and the Word of God continued to spread.
- **The Connection:** This story shows that being rooted in the Spirit allows us to "bear with one another" even when there are legitimate reasons for tension.

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The Unity of the Underground Railroad.

- **The Context:** During the era of slavery in the United States, the Underground Railroad was a network of people working to help enslaved individuals escape to freedom.
- **The Spiritual Root:** This network was comprised of people who, on the surface, had nothing in common: Quakers, former slaves like Harriet Tubman, white abolitionists, and indigenous people.



Harriet Tubman

The Connection: What held them together wasn't a legal contract or a government; it was a shared "Spirit" of justice and a "One Hope" for freedom. They used spiritual songs (coded "spirituals") to communicate. Harriet Tubman often spoke of hearing the "voice of the Spirit" to guide her paths and protect her "passengers."

The Result: Despite the extreme danger and the diversity of the people involved, they maintained a "bond of peace" and a singular focus that saved thousands of lives. They were rooted in a higher law—the Law of the Spirit.

E. Spirit-Rooted Application

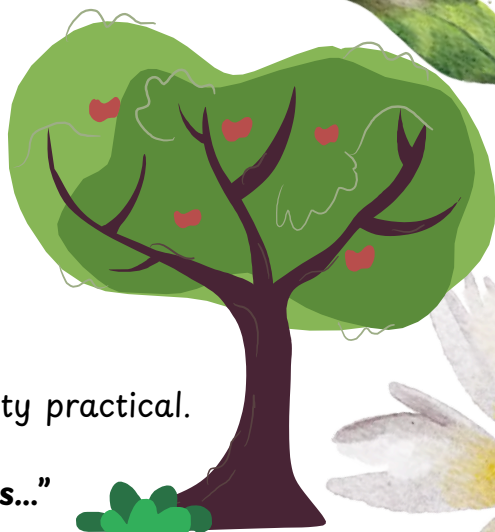
- Walk in humility
- Guard your heart
- Guard your words
- Guard your relationships

4. Rooted in Love

Romans 12:4-10

Paul shows how love makes unity practical.

- A. "We have different gifts..."**
Diversity is God's design



- Your gift is needed.
- Your presence is needed.
- Your voice is needed.

B. "Let love be sincere..."

- **Authenticity heals community**
- No masks.
- No pretending.
- Real love, real relationships.

C. "Be devoted to one another..."

Family language

The church is not an organisation; it is a spiritual family.

D. "Honour one another above yourselves..."


Honour builds unity

Honour is the soil where relationships flourish.

Jonathan and David.

Honour that strengthens covenant friendship.

The Context: Jonathan was the crown prince of Israel—the "Body Part" that was supposed to be King. David was a shepherd boy who had been anointed to take Jonathan's place. By all worldly logic, they should have been rivals.

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- **The Rooted Love:** Instead of jealousy, Jonathan loved David "as himself." He literally took off his royal robe and armour and gave them to David (1 Samuel 18:4). This was the ultimate act of "honouring another above yourself."



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- **The Result:** Their unity was so deep that Jonathan protected David from his own father (King Saul), risking his life to ensure David's success. This wasn't just a casual friendship; it was a "devotion" that kept the future of Israel's leadership intact.

The "Secret" Kindness of Oseola McCarty.

Romans 12:9, 12

- **The Context:** Oseola McCarty was a washerwoman in Mississippi who spent 75 years hand-washing clothes. She lived a very simple, hidden life.
- **The Rooted Love:** In 1995, it was discovered that she had saved \$150,000—almost her entire life's earnings. Instead of spending it on herself, she donated it to provide scholarships for students who couldn't afford college.

- **The Connection:** Her love was "sincere" (without hypocrisy). She didn't do it for fame. She did it because she was rooted in a love for her community and a desire to see others "honoured above herself."

- **The Result:** Her quiet, deep roots produced a massive "rising strong" effect. Her gift inspired thousands of others to donate, eventually raising millions of dollars for education. She proved that you don't need a "big" role in the body to have a massive impact through love.

E. Love Application

- Love sincerely
- Honour freely
- Serve joyfully
- Forgive quickly
- Encourage constantly



Conclusion.

GROWING DEEP TOGETHER

The "Oneness" of the Spirit

- Paul lists **seven "Ones"** in this passage that act as the anchor for our roots:

The Seven "Ones"	What it Means for Us
One Body	We are part of something bigger than ourselves.
One Spirit	We are all "breathing" the same divine air.
One Hope	We are all heading toward the same future.
One Lord	We all take orders from the same King.
One Faith	We share the same core convictions.
One Baptism	We have all been "washed" in the same way.
One God & Father	We are all brothers and sisters in one family.



When the church is rooted in:

- **Fellowship** (Acts 2)
- **Unity** (1 Corinthians 12)
- **The Spirit** (Ephesians 4)
- **Love** (Romans 12)

Respond in three ways:

1. Recommit to Fellowship

- Pray for deeper relationships.

2. Recommit to Unity

Release comparison, pride, or offence.

3. Recommit to Spiritual Family

Ask God to plant each person deeply in the body.



Goals

To Do
