

**God's Blender: God Makes the Church a Community**  
**1 Corinthians 12 (esp. vv. 18, 24, 28)**  
By Bob Young

**Introduction**

The nature of the Corinthian letter: problems and solutions

- 1. Division, 1
- 2. Immaturity, 3
- 3. Immorality, 5
- 4. Litigation, 6
- 5. Morality, 6
- 6. Marriage, 7
- 7. Eating meats, 8-10
- 8. Assembly, 11
- 9. Spiritual gifts, 12-14
- 10. Resurrection, 15

In some ways, these are symptoms, summaries of deeper problems.

1. Individualism, independence, me-ism, lack of interdependence
2. Insignificance, only a number, loss of value, loss of worth, esteem problems
3. Pride, competitiveness
4. Loss of community

**The Text of 1 Corinthians 12**

	Addresses these problems....
vv. 1-3, we share a common life	1,2,3,4,7,8,9
4-11, the origin of gifts is not individual	1,2,4,9
7, we have a common purpose	1,2,4
12-14, God desires unity	1,2,4,8
15ff, two principles	
1) we cannot exclude	2,3
2) we must care for all	4

**God has constituted the church....**

Vs. 18, that God's will be done requires diversity of abilities

Vs. 24, the nature of the unity and diversity; the church becomes visible through blending

Vs. 28, diversity of roles

**Lessons (Take-Aways)**

1. We must continue to emphasize community
2. Our gifts and thus our works are from God, vs. 11
  - a. our power is from God, not only our abilities, v. 11
  - b. stewardship means we are stewards of these gifts and abilities
  - c. gifts gives every member significance
3. Each member is significant and necessary, v. 22
4. Gifts are to be used for the good of the body