

The Spirit's Choice

1 Corinthians 12:1-14

Striving Together

Pastor Phil Winfield

May 27, 2012

Church Metaphors in the Bible

- God's Family – family intimacy and shared identity
- Temple of the Holy Spirit - God identifies with and dwells among us
- Vine and Branches – Dependence on Jesus and His word for life and fruitfulness
- Bridegroom and Bride – inseparable Union
- The Body of Christ – Mutually dependent but differing roles.

Living as Christ's Body in the world.

1. Rejoice in the **diversity** of Christ body - verse 1-11
 - a. The gifts of the Spirit are **gifts that are Spiritual**. Verse 1
 - b. The gifts of the Spirit are **granted** by the Spirit. Verse 4
 - c. The gifts of the Spirit are **gifted** people. Verses 5-6
 - d. The gifts of the Spirit are **given to the Church** verse 7
 - e. The gifts of the Spirit are **greatly diverse**. 8-10
 - f. The gifts of the Spirit are **governed** by the Spirit verse 11

2. **Maintain** the unity of Christ's body verse 12-14
 - a. How many bodies? **One - Unity**
 - b. How many members? **Many - Variety**
 - c. How many Heads? One – **Activity**
 - d. How many baptisms? One – **commonality** (Harmony)
 - e. How many options? One - **Maturity**

Key thought: You need a **body** to be "the body"