

## Find a Place in God's Family

**Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31**

Have you ever felt completely alone in a sea of people? It can be particularly noticeable in shopping malls or airport terminals. Hundreds, even thousands of people can swirl around us, yet we feel totally isolated. In situations like that nothing can be more refreshing than spotting a familiar face, someone we know and can talk with.

The issue here is relationship. It doesn't exist in a crowd of strangers. That's not true, however, in the body of Christ. Whether or not we have close friends when we first enter a group of believers, there is something about being part of the church family that helps us feel connected. And the more we are willing to get involved in the life of the church, the more connected we feel as relationships form and strengthen.

The apostle Paul went to great lengths to compare Christ's body, the Church, with the human body. The Church, like our bodies, has many parts, none of which function completely independent of the others. Instead, in order for the body to be healthy, all the parts must support one another. In 1 Corinthians 12:27, Paul declared:

**You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it.**

If you are battling loneliness, link up with the body of Christ. Find a place to get involved and let being part of the Body bring relief from feelings of loneliness or isolation.

**How has your life been changed or improved by being part of the church family?**

**In what ways could you become more connected in the body of Christ?**