

## **The Body of Christ**

### **Lesson 2 — Student Guide**

**Prepare for class:** Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

#### **Lesson Goal**

The goal of this lesson is to encourage students to recognize the fact that all of God's people are ministers of the gospel in the general sense, and to recognize the broad conclusions for their local congregations.

#### **Think**

#### **Evaluate**

1. Who are the characters in this story?
2. What are the objects in this story?
3. Where did this story happen?
4. When did this story happen?
5. What is the problem?
6. What events occurred in this story?
7. Is the problem solved?

#### **Learn**

8. What is the main theme of this lesson?
9. What sin does this lesson teach us to confess?
10. Where do you see the love of God in this lesson?
11. What does God teach us to do in this lesson?

#### **Lead**

12. What would be a good situation in which to share this message?

#### **Discussion**

13. Throughout the book of 1 Corinthians, Paul addresses many problems and difficulties in the church in Corinth. What are some of these problems?
14. Read 1 Corinthians 12. How does Paul's discussion of the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12 help the Corinthians find a better way to function?

15. Even though the image of the body of Christ is familiar to most of us, why can it be so difficult to live this image within our churches?
16. When we as church leaders are tempted to believe that we are the head of the church, what should we remember?
17. Jesus gave us the great gift of his righteousness. He also gave us a role to play in sharing his gospel. We have the privilege of being part of his body functioning on earth. Paul used the image of God's wonderful creation of the body – with many parts functioning in different roles for the operation of a single organism – to show how the church works. According to 1 Corinthians 12:1-3, which gift of the Spirit has been given to all believers?
18. According to 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, who has received additional gifts in different measures from the same Holy Spirit?
19. Read Mark 10:42-45. According to Jesus, what does it mean to be a minister?

#### **Lesson wrap-up**

All believers have the same gift of the Spirit that is faith in Jesus given through the means of grace. Each believer has unique additional gifts given by the same Spirit for the benefit of others. **What does this truth mean for the leader of a visible church?**