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¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)

not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)

placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)

parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it,²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)

26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (NIV)







“Paul is alluding to the huge number of clay figurines of dismembered body parts scattered throughout the Asclepion that represented afflicted members cured by the deity. Against the background of the Asclepion the Corinthian believers would have been reminded in the most vivid of terms of what they are not—divided, dead, unconnected members of the body.”

- J.D. Charles

We are ONE body.

All of life is interconnected & interdependent.

The universe is one single seamless reality.

**Beneath all the division, difference, and
distinction there is a seamless, integrated
unity that upholds everything.**

6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.



Ephesians 4:6 (NIV)

**It eliminates us and them.
We are all inextricably bound together.**

You embrace who you are at the surface level while simultaneously acknowledging all the divisions, categories, and labels are descriptive labels, not value labels.

28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

“The growing consciousness is that life is interwoven, that reality is a web of interrelated influences, and that what we do to a part we do to the whole.”

- John Philip Newell

“If the divinity in me recognizes the divinity in you, how could I abuse, violate, or harass? I would, after all, only be punishing myself.”

- Richard Rohr

“As newly minted members of us, their problems are now our problems. We can no longer stand at a distance, point our fingers at them and shake our heads in disgust. We must lovingly and wisely engage because to fail to do so would only hurt ourselves.”

- Christina Cleveland



14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two.



Ephesians 2:14 (NIV)

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