

# **Summer Study**

## **2024 – Session Two**



**This Past Week –  
Let's see, what did we talk about?**

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**OH, I  
remember!**

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**HAPPY  
TOGETHER!**

# **HAPPY TOGETHER**

Imagine me and you, I do  
United in the love of Christ, who is our Life,  
The One who came to live die and then to rise  
To bring us together

If I should call you up with any need  
And you say that you're there for me and intercede  
I know that I belong to you and you to me  
So happy together

# **HAPPY TOGETHER**

I can't see me lovin' the Lord without you

For all my life

When you're with me, I know that He is there, too


For all my life

Me and you, and you and me

No matter what this life will bring, I know we'll see

That He is working all for good for you and me

**So HAPPY TOGETHER**



**O.K.!**

Here is what we did  
cover last week

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It is imperative that we understand more fully our “togetherness” with Christ.

It is also very important we learn in a deeper way what “together” means for us in our relationships.

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We prefer independence as opposed to dependency on the Lord or interdependency with others.

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We prefer self-reliance and control.

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We do not want to be perceived as weak and/or needy for fear of what others might think or how we might be taken advantage of.

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We don't want to be disappointed or get hurt.



We typically end up with a head knowledge relationship with God and surface relationships with those around us. There is no real intimacy to those relationships, so they unfortunately do not hold a very special place in our hearts. Instead, we find our joy in things that matter very little or are not healthy at all.

- We do not feel known, and as a result can feel that if people really did know us, they would run from us.
- Life is actually pretty boring, and relationships are too much work, so we tend to withdraw or shutdown.
- Scripture does not bring life to us, but instead can actually feel like it just pours cold water on life and is too hard to really understand.
- We become complacent and experience a high degree of mediocrity in our daily lives.

# EPHESIANS 2

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—  
3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ**—by grace you have been saved—

# EPHESIANS 2

6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

# **This Week?**

Well let's kick it  
off with another  
**“Oldie Goldie”**

from

1965

# “Help” by The Beatles

So much younger than today  
I never needed anybody's help in any way  
but now these days are gone  
I'm not so self assured  
now I find I've changed my mind  
And opened up the doors

# “Help” by The Beatles

Help me if you can, I'm feeling down  
And I do appreciate you being 'round  
Help me get my feet back on the ground  
Won't you please, please help me

## This Week – I Corinthians 12: 12 - 26

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

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14 For the **body does not consist of one member but of many.** 15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 **But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.** 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, **there are many parts, yet one body.**

# I Corinthians 12: 21 – 24 a

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require.

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# I Corinthians 12: 24 b - 26

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

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What is Paul  
actually  
saying in this  
text?

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We are one  
body

We are all  
important

We need each  
other

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What is Paul  
actually  
saying in this  
text?

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We have different roles and responsibilities

We are not to be dismissive of **anyone**

We are to engage together in very deeply emotional ways

- We suffer together
- We rejoice together

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What does our  
culture say?

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I am sad to say  
that you actually  
already know the  
answer very well

- I have no “need” of you!
- The “weaker” parts are dispensable!
- Strive to earn the greater honor!
- Self reliance is a good thing!
- Don’t ever be a burden to anyone!
- Stay away from “messy” people!
- Control your emotions!

# What does it take to

Suffer

- To endure death, pain or distress  
To sustain loss or damage

Rejoice

- To feel joy or great delight

Together

- In a body, as a group



# It takes

A right understanding of the Gospel that we have been made alive together with Christ. (Eph. 2: 5)

An acceptance that we are a part of the body of Christ and that we need each other. (I Cor. 12: 12, 13)

Intentionality to care for one another, and to both suffer and rejoice together. (I Cor. 12: 25, 26)

**AND**

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# Two Very Important Things

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Standing against  
the culture.

No longer being  
controlled by the  
fear of getting hurt.

# WE ARE TOGETHER!

We are no longer alone!

We have been made alive together with Christ!

We are a part of a body!

We no longer have to be self-reliant.

We no longer need to fear being a burden to others.

# AND...

We can actually be a blessing  
to others

“Rejoice with those who rejoice,  
weep with those who weep.”

(Romans 12: 15)

# + Two Stories +

SPRING SEMESTER

2024

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# 2 Corinthians 4

16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.



**Invite Your  
FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY**

**TO BE TOGETHER**

LIVING LIFE AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

6-WEEK STUDY - JUNE/JULY

TUESDAY MORNING MEN - 7 A.M.

WEDNESDAY CO-ED CLASS - 7 P.M.



# Next Week: Psalm 133

1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

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# Discussion Questions

What are your thoughts about suffering and rejoicing together?

Why is “the fear of getting hurt” such a big fear for most people?

How tempting is “self-reliance” for you?

What is your take-away from today’s lesson?