

# **I Need You To Survive**<sup>1</sup>

(Dr. Baines, Jr. 9/2019)

Read I Cor. 12:12 --- ***Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.***

**Introduction:** If you've been in church for more than a few years, you know that church folk can get on your last nerve. Some even ask, "Why would anyone keep coming to church"? In part, we come because we need each other to survive and thrive in times like these. Our discussion centers around how, ***"We should be mindful of being members of the body of Christ."***

## **Key Points:**

**1. Make sure you are in the body of Christ.** Our text (i.e., I Cor. 12:12) is written to saved people. Passages like John 3:16 and I John 5:11-13 support the idea of being saved/forgiven by accepting Jesus as your savior by faith. Nothing gets you right with God except the Son. *Let's make sure that we are saved by faith in Jesus' substitute death payment for the penalty of our sins.*

**2. Saved people are connected to one another.** Passages like I Corinthians 12:12 support how saved people are connected to one another as members of the same spiritual body. No matter how we may choose to label and divide ourselves, if we are saved, we are connected to one another. Choir members and ushers, those who teach and those who count money, those who serve and those who sit are all connected. *Let's be mindful that as saved people, we are all connected.*

**3. We are in spiritual warfare.** Passages like Ephesians 6:12-13 and I Peter 5:8 support saved people being in a spiritual warfare with the devil. He tries to divide and conquer us (see Mt. 12:25), but we need to work on working together (see Ecc. 4:12). *Let's work on working together, so we can have more victories than failures in our warfare.*

**4. We are called to have abundant and impactful living.** Passages like John 10:10; Matthew 5:13-16 support the idea that God wants His people to have abundant and impactful lives. It is easier for us to be happy, healthy, and wealthy disciples with friends and contributions when we have family unity. It is easier for us to make a positive impact in the lives of young people, seniors, the poor, and the mistreated when we have family unity. *Let's work on working together, so we can have more abundant lives and more impactful lives, instead of being divided and lacking these things.*

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<sup>1</sup> Prepare to discuss the following: What is the point, what scripture supports the point, what is the application sentence, and what is an example of living by the material? After the material is covered, be prepared to answer the following: Which point do you want to spend extra time on, why do you think this point is so important, and what tips do you have for living by this material, in spite of the challenges? **What is one thing you will take from this session and work on, in regard to your discipleship goals?**

**5. We should intentionally celebrate and urge family unity.** First, passages like Psalm 122:1 support the idea of the church still being a good place to find a little more strength. Second, passages like Esther 4:16 support the idea that God works in some strange times. In times like these, we need to gather, organize, and press forward, instead of just complain. Third, passages like Ephesians 3:20 remind us that God is able to do more than we ask or think. Through Christ, the best is yet to come. *Let's intentionally work on and celebrate church family unity.*