

Introduction

Ephesians study 5

One Head, One Body

1. A body is unified

- We don't have to create the unity, we maintain it.

- Unity "here" comes before unity "out there".

- Real unity is based on truth.



2. A body is diverse

- Invite your friends
- Go with a staffworker to talk to students around the campus
- Cook dinner for Friday night
- Clean up after dinner
- Help with music and singing
- MC on a Friday night
- Meet with another student during the week to encourage them.

3. A body grows and matures



Discuss

What do you think the Bible means when it uses the word "church"?

- a. the building
- b. the denomination (eg Anglican, Baptists, Catholics)
- c. all Christians everywhere through all times (dead or alive)
- d. members of a congregation
- e. the gathering of people at the service

What do you think the Bible means when it uses the term "body of Christ"?

Why are there so many different brands of Christianity and what makes them different?

Read Ephesians 4:1–16.

How should followers of Jesus behave towards each other?

v2

v3

What unites Christians together and why?

v4

v5–6

What are verses 8–10 trying to say? What does “ascended and descended” mean?

List the gifts that Christ gives to his church. (v11–13)

Which of the following do you think the passage is referring to?

- a. Christ gives Christians certain talents and gifts to be used for growing the church.
- b. Christ gives people who are apostles, prophets, etc, to the church to grow it.
- c. Christ gives people who are apostles, prophets, etc, to the church to prepare other followers of Jesus to build up the church.

Following on from this, what are the roles of the following people:

- a. pastors and leaders of a church
- b. members of a church
- c. staff workers at FOCUS
- d. members at FOCUS

What is the goal or purpose for building up God’s people?

v13

v14

v15

v16

How does the knowledge of Jesus and being united prevent Christians from being tricked by deceitful people? (v14)

What is your role in FOCUS/church and how are you being prepared to serve?

In your opinion, what is the difference between unity and conformity?

How is unity and diversity expressed in your church or in FOCUS?