

MEMBERS IN PARTICULAR
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Jan Magiera and Trish Barbera

MEMBERS IN PARTICULAR

A Comparison of the
Physical Body with
the Body of Christ



JANET M. MAGIERA

The Great Mystery Unraveled

I Cor 2:7 (ESV): But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God which God decreed before the ages for our glory

Meaning of the word "mystery": spiritual secret

Rom 16:24, 25 (MGI): ²⁴ Now to God, who is able to establish you in my gospel that is proclaimed about Jesus Christ by the revelation of the mystery that was hidden from the times of the ages,
²⁵ but is revealed in this time by way of the writings of the prophets, and by the commandment of the eternal God is made known to all the Gentiles for the obedience of the faith,

I Tim 3:16 (MGI): and truly great is this mystery of uprightness...

Col 1:27 (MGI): To them, God wanted to make known what is the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is the Messiah who is in you, the hope of our glory,

Eph 3:4-6:

- A) now revealed to holy apostles and prophets
- B) by (in) the Spirit
- C) fellow heirs (FAMILY)
- C) of the same body (BODY)
- C) partakers of his promise (TEMPLE)
- B) in Christ
- A) by the gospel

Family shows our relationship with God and Jesus Christ

Gal 4:6, 7
Rom 8:17

Body shows how we work together with each other and what we do

I Cor 12: 12, 13, 27

Temple shows where we dwell and our authority in Christ

Heb 6:4

Eph 2:20-22 (MGI) ²⁰ And you are built on the foundation of the apostles and of the prophets and Jesus Christ is the head of the corner of the building.
²¹ And in him the whole building is fit together and is growing into a holy temple in the LORD,
²² while you also are built in him for a dwelling of God spiritually.

God Loves Diversity

Eph 3:8-11

I Pet 4:10, 11

Rom 12:3-8 (MGI):³ Now I say by the grace that was given to me for all of you, you should not think outside of what is right to think, but everyone should think soberly, according to faith in the measure God has distributed to him.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members and all members do not have one function,

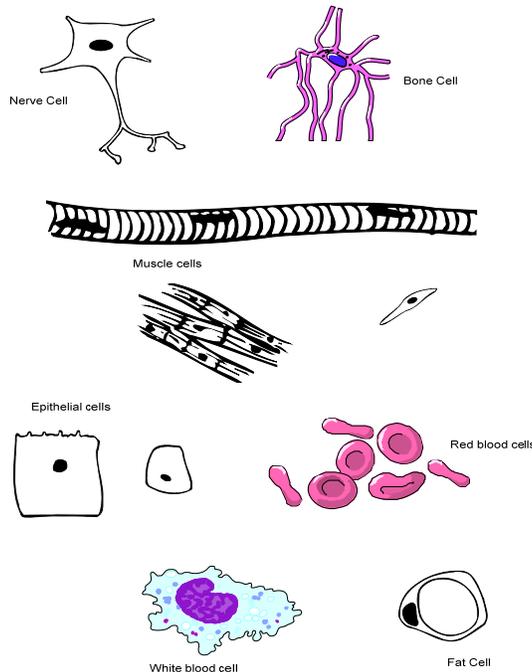
⁵ so also we who are many are one body in Christ and each one of us are members of one another.

⁶ But we have various gifts according to the grace that is given to us. There is [giving] of prophecy according to the measure of his faith,

⁷ and there is [giving] of ministering one has in his ministering, and there is [giving] of a teacher in his teaching,

⁸ and there is [giving] of a comforter in his comforting, and of one who gives, with simplicity, and of one who presides, with diligence, and of one who is merciful, with cheerfulness.

FUNCTION	MEANING	TYPE OF CELL
Prophecy	Connecting, transferring, building, cohering or joining	Connective
Ministering	Doing, attending, working, serving	Muscle
Teaching	Developing, growing, circulating, imparting, communicating	Blood
Comforting	Covering, protecting, renewing, strengthening, encouraging	Epithelial
Giving (with generosity)	Bestowing, conferring, yielding, giving	Fat
Leading (with diligence)	Leading, guiding, setting goals, stimulating	Nerve
Being merciful (with cheerfulness)	Caring, healing, soothing, helping in deliverance	Lymph



Jesus Christ, the Head of the Body

As members of the Body of Christ, our unity comes from being part of a loving arrangement of God's making, the fulfillment of His dream for mankind.... a family, a Body that is continually being infused by the life and power of Christ who is the Head.

The Aramaic word for "head" is *risha* and can mean a physical head. When used to represent the head of other things it can mean: 1) beginning or origination, 2) start or starting point in a series, 3) chief or best part, 4) ruler or leader.

Jesus Christ was the firstborn among many brethren and his relationship with His Father marked the beginning of the Father's relationship with all of His children.

Col 1:18 (MGI): And he is the head of the body, the church, for he is the beginning and the firstborn from the dead in order that he would be the first in all [things].

God placed Jesus Christ in a position of authority over all other authorities, principalities and powers, and gave him a name above all names.

Eph 1:20-23 (MGI): ²⁰ [This is] he who worked in Christ and raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in heaven,
²¹ higher than all rulers and authorities and powers and lordships and higher than every name that is named, not only in this world, but in the coming [one] also.
²² And he subjected everything under his feet and he gave him who is higher than all [to be] the head of the church,
²³ which is his body and the fullness of him who is filling all in all.

We are vitally connected to Jesus Christ and to each other by the spirit of God within each of us.

Eph 4:15, 16 (MGI): ¹⁵ But we should be steadfast in our love, so that [in] everything we ourselves may grow up in Christ, who is the head.
¹⁶ And from him the whole body is fit together and is knit together in all the joints, according to the gift that is given by measure to each member for the growth of the body, that its building up would be accomplished in love.

We are held closely together in love as a Body that grows because of the leadership and nourishing from Jesus Christ.

Col 2:19 (ESV): and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

Ode to the Philippians

Ministries in the Book of Acts

Eph 4:8-13

Called by many terms: gift ministries, grace gifts, charismatic gifts, ascension gifts, divine enablements, ministers

"Doma" gifts (adapted from John MacArthur)

1. Essential
2. Can be counterfeited, not natural ability
3. Always unite the body
4. For the maturing of the believers
5. Come in many varieties
6. You can have a gift and not use it
7. There is a process of training and growing up
8. Energized by God for His glory
9. Gifts and calling of God are without repentance
10. The goal is to grow up into Christ and become the gift needed

Apostle: stimulates and brings vision

often unknown, can rise up after another gift is prominent

has a jurisdiction

Prophet: speaks for God

not always liked (in with the good, out with the bad)

Evangelist: preacher of good news of gospel

ministers to both unbelievers and the church

Pastor: tends, feeds, takes care of people (shepherd)

most variety of all the gifts

Teacher: makes known and explains the Word and how to apply it

has to be a learner first

In Philippi:

Lydia

Fortune Teller

Jailor

Luke

Epaphroditus

Euodias & Syntyche

Clement

Members One of Another

Rom 12:5: we who are many are one

Eph 1:3-11 (MGI):³ Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heaven in Christ,
⁴ even as he chose us beforehand in him, from before the foundations of the world, that we should be holy [ones] and without blemish before him. And in love, he marked us out beforehand for himself
⁵ and he adopted us in Jesus Christ, as was pleasing to his will,
⁶ that the glory of his grace would be glorified, which he has poured on us by way of his beloved [one],
⁷ in whom we have redemption and remission of sins by his blood, according to the wealth of his grace,
⁸ which he caused to abound in us with all wisdom and with all understanding.
⁹ And he made known to us the mystery of his will that he had determined beforehand to accomplish in him,
¹⁰ in the administration of the fullness of times, that everything that is in heaven and in earth should be made new again in Christ.
¹¹ And we were chosen in him, even as he marked us out beforehand and he desired, he who performs everything according to the purpose of his will,

Eph 2:18, 3:12, 4:13

Koinoneo: "communion by intimate participation"

I Cor 12:12-27 (MGI):¹² For as the body is one and there are many members in it and all the members of the body, although they are many, are one body, so also [is] Christ.
¹³ For all of us also are baptized in one spirit into one body, whether Judean or Gentile, whether slave or free men. And all of us drink of one Spirit.
¹⁴ For also the body is not one member, but many.
¹⁵ For if the foot should say, "Because I am not the hand, I am not a part of the body," because of this, is it not a part of the body?
¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not the eye, I am not a part of the body," because of this, is it not a part of the body?
¹⁷ For if all the body were eyes, where would the hearing be? And if all of it were hearing, where would the smelling be?
¹⁸ But now God has placed every one of the members in the body, as he willed.
¹⁹ Now if they were all one member, where would the body be?
²⁰ But now, there are many members, but it is one body.
²¹ The eye is not able to say to the hand, "You are not necessary to me." Nor is the head able to say to the feet, "You are not necessary to me."
²² But more, there is a necessity for those members that are thought to be weak.
²³ And to those that we think are despised in the body, we give more honor. And for those that are modest, we make more decoration.
²⁴ Now those members that we have that are honored do not require honor. For God has joined together the body and he has given more honor to the member who is least,
²⁵ so that there would not be division in the body, but rather [that] all the members would care for one another equally,
²⁶ so that when one member was hurt, all of them would suffer, and if one member was praised, all the members would be praised.
²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and members in your place.

Tempered together: sugkerannumi, "mixed together so there is profit"

With One Accord

Lexicon Results for *homothumadon* (Strong's G3661)

homothumadon

ho-mo-thü-mä-do'n

Outline of Biblical Usage

1) with one mind, with one accord, with one passion

A unique Greek word, used 10 of its 12 New Testament occurrences in the Book of Acts, helps us understand the uniqueness of the Christian community. Homothumadon is a compound of two words meaning to "rush along" and "in unison". The image is almost musical; a number of notes are sounded which, while different, harmonize in pitch and tone. As the instruments of a great concert under the direction of a concert master, so the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of members of Christ's church.

Act 1:14	These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.
Act 2:1	And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
Act 2:46	And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,
Act 4:24	And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord , and said, Lord, thou [art] God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:
Act 5:12	And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.
Rom 15: 5	Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:
Rom 15:6	That ye may with one mind [and] one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom 15:5-7 (MGI):

Now the God of patience and of comfort grant you to think in harmony with each other, in Jesus Christ,

That with one mind and with one mouth you may praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of this, draw near to and bear up each other, as also Christ has drawn near to you for the glory of God.

Lexicon Results for *sympsychos* (Strong's G4861)

sympsychos

sü'm-psü-khos

Outline of Biblical Usage

1) of one mind, of one accord

This word is made up of two words *sun* (together with) and *psychos* (soul, self, inner life, or the seat of the feelings, desires, affections). So the word refers to being 'united in spirit' or harmonious (BDAG). Paul desired the Philippians to be united in their affections—one in Christ in all desires! Phl 2:2 is the only occurrence of this word in the NT.

Phl 2:2	Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, [being] of one accord , of one mind.
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