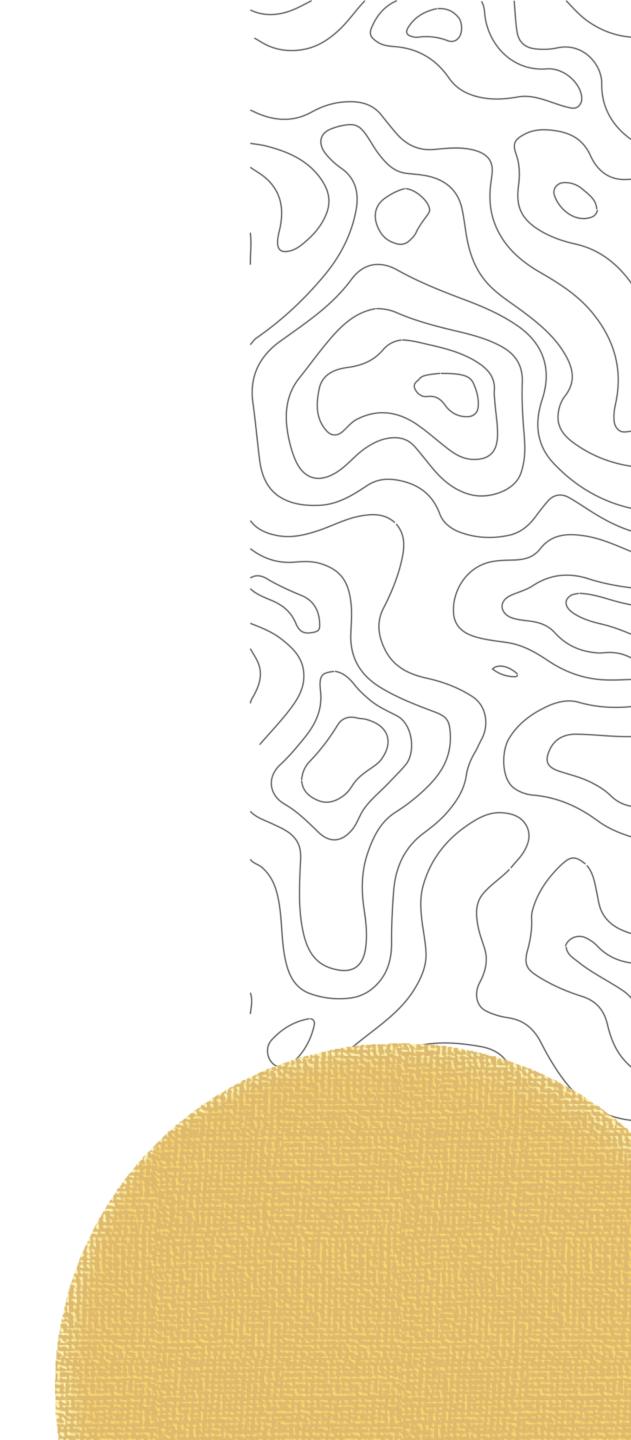


Who are you, really?

2 most common descriptors of the bible:

- 1. The Body
- 2. Family



The Body

Why did Paul think it was so important that he took a significant portion of 1 Corinthians (12:12–27), mentioned it in Romans (12:3–4), Ephesians (4:7–16), and Colossians (1:18)?

Family

Ephesians 3:14, 1Timothy 5:1–2, 2 Corinthians 6:18,

Matthew 12:49-50, and 1 John 3:14-18

All speak of those who belong as family; brothers and sisters, sons and daughters.

You don't get to choose your primary three relationships:

- 1. The family you were born into
- 2. The neighbors that you have

3. The God that you serve who chose you

How did we get to this place where we are willing to not know the person we are sitting next to or pass in the hall?

One of the hardest things to lay down is our independence

- We live in a highly competitive culture where we are just too busy to do some of the things that are good for us
- We think it's our schedule

The real issue is our heart condition, not our schedule or environment; back to what the world has taught us. We don't see each other as family or truly connected to each other as one body.

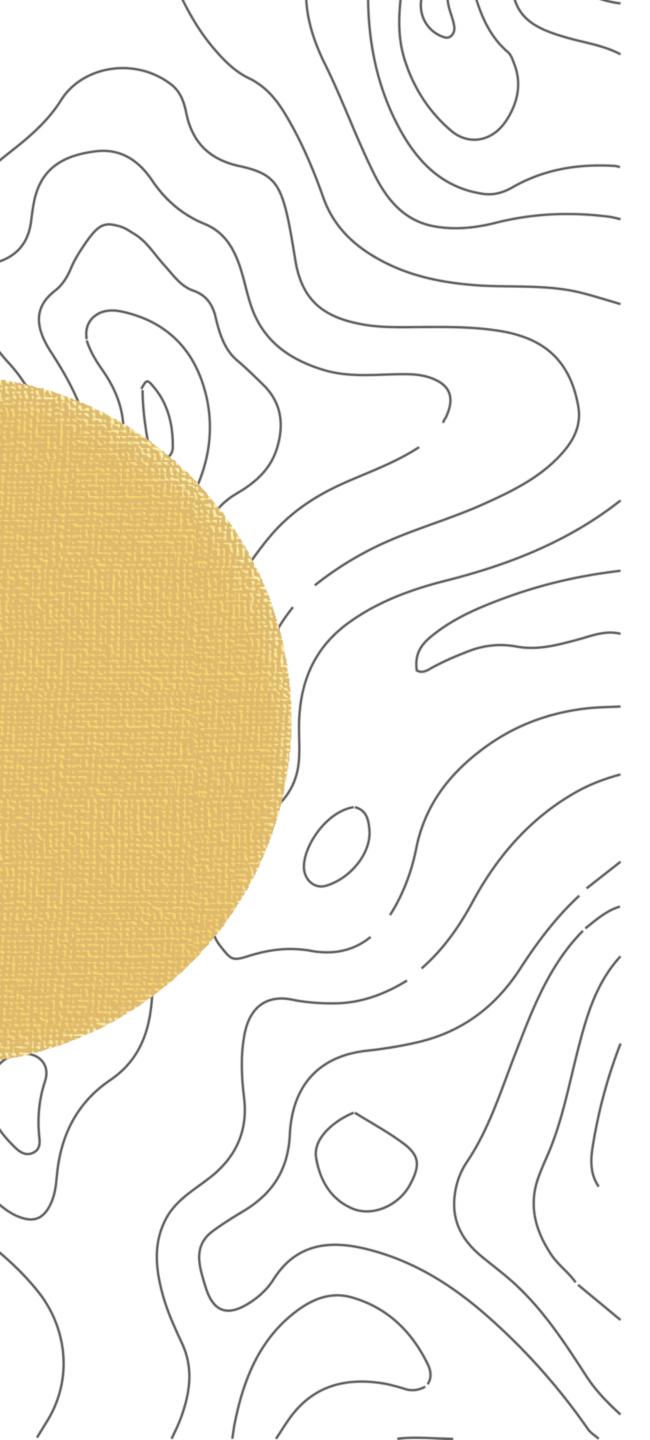
- We don't believe that we really need each other, but we do
- We sometimes think that we only got saved for ourselves, not each other and those beyond us.
- Humility demands we allow others in and take time for

each other

Many have gotten too comfortable with church as an organization, and have forgotten that it's first an organism.

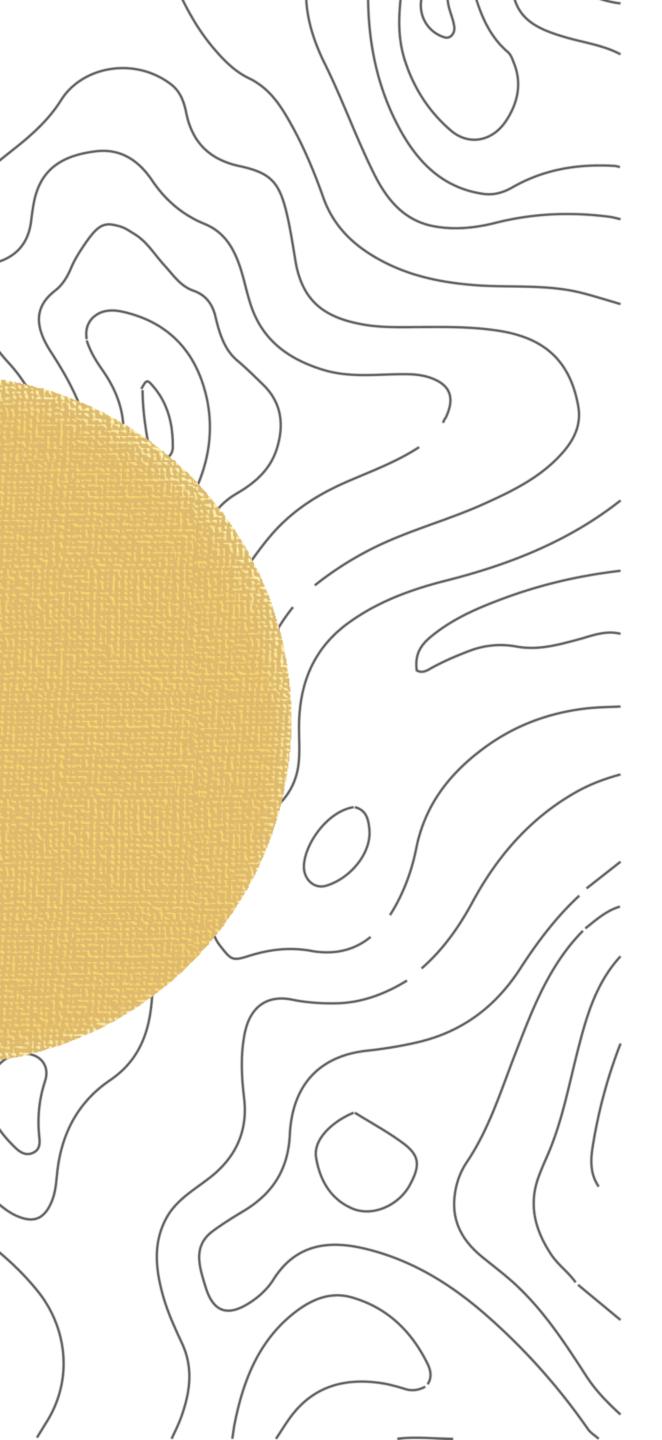
Do you 'go to church' or are you 'a part of it'?

- You are incredibly unique and each one has a unique place and function in the body of Christ, yet in the larger picture, none of you are the totality of the body of Christ.
- You are not what someone else is! In fact, you, according to Paul's description, are so dependent on others in the body of Christ that you can't properly function without them, nor they without you.



Why is this important to God?

- He believes in unity for the sake of community.
 - The Trinity—Three in one with each being unique to accomplish one's will. In this he modeled the mystery of diversity and oneness



Why is this important to God?

God is the author of economics and at every level, you can accomplish more together than you can on your own. It's why organizations grow, it's why as things get complicated, more and more people are brought in to work together. People get involved and realize that more can be done in community with a variety of resources athan just the entrepreneur in the garage.

Do you know what Jesus wanted for us relationally? To each other?

John 17:20-23

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

If any of us could do more than what we are designed by God to do, pride would rule and we wouldn't need each other.

However, in his wisdom, he had assigned each of us only asmall portion to be faithful with and then called each of us to obedience.

Who are we?

- True followers of Jesus who gather in worship of him, learn about him and live a life our in community and in the world
- Our identity and mission come from Jesus Christ himself
- You, church, are the bride of Christ. Beautiful, pure in his eyes and by his shed blood for you
- You are his representation here on earth, holy and magnificent

So what specifically does this mean to each of us?

Personally:

In attitude and character we need to be Christian. We are a part of the body by God's grace and our choice to repent and believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Now, we continue with our choice and grow up in obedience and Christian integrity.

- Your 'family' unit literally the family or your 'spiritual' family.
- What are our responsibilities towards each other?
- What can we get done together that we can't get done alone?
 - You can't love someone by yourself, there has to be another
 - Loneliness is defeated in the friendship of others
 - There is no accontability by your self
 - Thinking isn't challenged if it's not shared
 - You need others to pray with you
 - God's gifts can't be exercised without others

Corporately:

There is a certain responsibility to carry out the 'chores' or needs created within the church family or body.

- Pastoral Care (small groups, mentoring, women and mens, support groups)
- Children's Sunday School and Awana
- Connections (hospitality and events)
- Tech and Sound
- Communications

KidsMin (Children's Ministry)

- Awana is a bible-based discipleship and evangelism ministry where kids learn scripture and are given the opportunity to know, love, and serve Jesus, no matter their background. (Meets on Wednesday nights)
- Greeters at the KidsMin kiosk to check kids into classes and meet the parents

Connections (Hospitality)

- Sunday Morning Team: Greeters, Ushers, coffee team, reception desk etc.
- Today at 12:30 on the back patio Erin Hesse (Small Group and Connections Director) will be holding a Connections team training if you'd like to explore that ministry

Externally:

We also need to consider how we function and invest in things outside High Point Church

With your skills, resources and time, what can you, should you do, to fulfill your part of God's church and his Kingdom moving forward?