



# INVITATION TO A JOURNEY

## Corporate Spirituality

“Holistic growth in the image of Christ for the sake of others is a corporate and social reality.”

—Robert Mulholland

<sup>12</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

<sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

<sup>15</sup> Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

<sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

19 If they were all one part, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many parts, but  
one body.

—1 Corinthians 12:12-20

<sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

<sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church...

—Colossians 1:17-18

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and  
**each one of you** is a part of it.

—1 Corinthians 12:27

25 so that **there should be no division in the body**, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

—1 Corinthians 12:25

<sup>3</sup> Grace and peace to you from God  
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
—1 Corinthians 1:3

<sup>1</sup> Now about the gifts of the Spirit,  
brothers and sisters, I do not want you  
to be uninformed.

—1 Corinthians 12:1

<sup>3</sup> ...no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,”  
except by the Holy Spirit.

—1 Corinthians 12:3b

“The relinquishment of the control of our relationship with God to God is the essence, I think, of moving out of our privatized, individualized spirituality and into corporate spirituality.”

—Robert Mulholland

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—1 Cor 12:12-13

<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given **for the common good.**

—1 Corinthians 12:7

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

—1 Corinthians 12:4

9 to another faith by the same Spirit,  
—1 Corinthians 12:9a

28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, **helping, administering...**

—1 Corinthians 12:28

<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given **for the common good.**

—1 Corinthians 12:7

<sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

—1 Corinthians 12:14

<sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

<sup>15</sup> Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

—1 Corinthians 14-15

<sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

—1 Corinthians 12:17

“Our unique individuality is one of the gifts we bring to the body of Christ. [...]

The **diversity** in our temperament types is part of the glorious **diversity** of the body of Christ, in which God nurtures us to wholeness.”

—Robert Mulholland

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!”

—1 Corinthians 12:21

“We can no more be formed in the image of Christ outside of corporate spirituality than a coal can continue to burn bright outside of the fire.”

—Robert Mulholland

22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.

—1 Corinthians 12:22-23

“The idea of corporate spirituality moves powerfully against the grain of our deeply encultured, individualized, privatized understanding of spirituality.”

—Robert Mulholland

<sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

<sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

—1 Corinthians 12:25-26

33 even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved.

—1 Corinthians 10:33



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