

# We Are...the Body

- All Pre-Class
- Arrange tables and chairs.
  - Pray for tonight's class.
  - Have music playing.
  - Take attendance.

7:00-7:20

## REVIEW

Choose an activity or activities from the following ideas:

- Review previous lessons.
  - Ask questions regarding the last few lessons using the "We Are... Review Questions" and "Jesus is...A through Z Review Questions" (in KPH binder). Reward correct answers with Starbursts, etc.
  - Play "baseball" with the review questions. Have the entire class play as one team, trying to beat a score of 20 runs (their record), or divide them into two teams and see which team can score the most runs. An incorrect answer equals an out. After three outs, it's the other team's turn to "bat" (or if playing with the entire class as one team, clear the bases of "runners" after three outs). Make sure each team gets an equal number of "at bats." Have another teacher keep track of outs and points on the marker board.
  - Play musical chairs. When the music stops, ask the player without a chair a review question. If the student answers correctly, he or she gets to stay in the game.
  - Divide the group into pairs. Give each pair one of the "mini posters" with adjectives and titles of Jesus (i.e., the "A" sheet or the "B" sheet, etc.; in KPH binder). Have each team work together to memorize every adjective or title on their sheet. Then have them come up front and recite them to the class.
  - Have a student come to the front of the class and pick a letter (A-Z) out of a bag and then try to remember all the adjectives/titles that go with that letter.
  - Play A-M or N-Z "BINGO" with adjectives/titles.
- Review other previously memorized items. Use cardboard chart and cards with books of the Bible, as well as other props.
  - "One God," "Sin and Repentance," etc., verses that students have been working on.
    - Sing verses set to song
  - Books of the Old and New Testaments
  - Divisions of Old and New Testaments

All 7:20-7:40

### BIBLE MEMORY WORK

Divide the class into four groups: two each for 5- to 7-year-olds and 8- to 10-year-olds, one teacher with each group. (To cut down on noise and confusion, two groups may leave the room to practice verses in the hallway, stairwell, or another classroom.)

Students will work on memorizing doctrinal verses. Each student will have his/her own list or booklet to work from, containing a chart for teachers to initial as students quote the verses one at a time, two at a time, etc. (Teachers: Please read instructions on the bottom Bible memory work charts or in the front of the booklets.)

Coloring pages with the 10 Commandments or other Bible verses are available (in the KPH binder) to help occupy visitors or younger/distracted students while their classmates are working on verses.

- Remind students that there will be prizes for those who pass with a score of 80 percent or better.
- Remind students that during Bible Memory Work time, everyone must be working, not distracting others. They should help each other learn the verses. It's fun working together!

7:40-7:45

### RULES & PRAYER

- Review "Power Hour Promises" with the students, reminding them of proper behavior during class.
- Pray together, thanking God for your time together and praying that each person will understand and obey God's Word and grow into a strong Christian.

7:45-8:05

### BIBLE LESSON

Teacher Prep:

Read 1 Corinthians 12 and Colossians 1:18. Pray for anointing.

Items Needed:

"We Are..." display board; felt pieces (or pictures printed from clip art or internet) of different parts of the human body, including "unseen" parts such as heart, stomach, lungs, and intestines; Bible; "The Body" Visual.

## Introduction

During the first part of the year we learned about Jesus' titles and adjectives from A through Z. Refer to the "Jesus is...A through Z" board.

Now we are learning about some of the things that the Bible says we Christians are. Refer to the "We Are..." display board.

All of these things are metaphors (comparisons) that describe a little bit of what we are to Jesus and to others. Christians aren't literally salt, light, sheep, or epistles, but there are ways we are LIKE salt, light, sheep, and epistles.

Today we're going to talk about how we are like the Body of Christ.

Show and briefly discuss different body parts; for example:

- What is this body part and what does it do for the body?
- What is the most important body part? (*all parts are important to us, but some we absolutely cannot live without*)

## Lesson

In 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12, Paul writes about how the Church (not the building but the entire group of Christians) is the BODY of Christ. Each Christian is a different part of the Body.

In the first few verses, he talks about 9 gifts given to Christians by the Holy Spirit:

- The word of wisdom
- The word of knowledge
- Faith
- Gifts of healing
- Working of miracles
- Prophecy
- Discerning (recognizing) of spirits
- Different kinds of tongues (languages)
- Interpretation of tongues (explaining what was said)

- **Which gift is the best?** (*that's like asking which body part is most important...*)

**Verse 11 (NIrV) says:**

"All of the gifts are produced by one and the same Spirit. He gives them to each person, just as he decides."

- **All the gifts come from how many spirits?** (*one Spirit*)
- **How many bodies do you have?** (*one!*)
- **How many parts does your body have?** (*thousands [thousands of hairs alone!]*)

**All of your thousands of body parts go together to keep you alive and make you uniquely you.**

**All of us Christians, with our different gifts, go together to make up one Body of Christ. It doesn't matter who we are or where we are from, when we have been baptized in Jesus' name and filled with His Spirit we are all ONE in Christ.**

**Now listen to these questions Paul asked in verses 15-17 & 19:**

**Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-17 & 19 from your Bible, pointing to the appropriate body parts as you read.**

**Imagine if your whole body was one big foot...or hand...or eye...or ear.**

- **Why would that be bad?** (*discuss how having only one ability or sense would severely limit you*)

**It's a good thing that the Church, the Body of Christ, is made up of many different people with many different gifts. These differences make the Body of Christ better and able to do much more than if everyone were the same and had the same gift.**

**Next Paul talks about how much we in the Body of Christ need each other:**

**Read 1 Corinthians 12:21 from your Bible.**

Every part of the body depends on all the other parts to make up a whole, healthy body. And the parts that we can't see (unless someone cuts us open) are often more important than the ones we can see.

- Can you think of an example of an unseen body part that is more important than a part you can see? (*show some of the felt or printed body parts: you can live without arms but not without lungs; you can live without hair but not without a heart, etc.*)

Paul said we should take care of each other because we're all part of one body.

- If you stub your littlest toe, how does your body react? (*you feel pain; your hand grabs your toe; your nerves, brain, hand, fingers, etc., all react*)
- If your foot gets a soothing massage, how does your body react? (*your feet feel wonderful and relaxed; your nerves, brain, etc., all react and feel better also*)

You should never say or do unkind things to hurt a fellow Christian. If you do, you are hurting yourself because we are all part of one body.

Paul ends the chapter by listing different workers in the Church, like teachers. 😊

- What are some jobs that people do in our church? (*preacher, teacher, musician, praise singer, cleaner, yard worker, usher, office worker, etc.*)
- What job do you have? What job would you like to have someday? (*allow some quick responses*)

Have a student attach "The Body" visual to the "We Are..." display board.

Life Application

- What part of the human body tells all the other parts what to do? (*the head/brain*)
- Who is the Head of the Church? (*Jesus Christ [we talked about this earlier in the year when we studied His "H" titles]*)

Jesus ascended into heaven with His physical body, but He left His followers here on the earth as His spiritual body. We are His hands, feet, heart, eyes, ears, etc., on the earth. For His body on earth to be healthy, we need to listen and obey Him (our head) and work together.

Let's pray right now. Talk to Jesus about what part of His body you are or would like to be and how you can work with other Christians to show the world Jesus. Ask Jesus to help you to always listen to and obey Him.

Lead the kids in prayer—response to lesson.

8:05-8:15

BIBLE SKILLS

Use the "Books of the Bible" display board to point things out as you ask these questions:

- How many books are in the New Testament? (27 [3 letters in the word "New" x 9 letters in the word "Testament" = 27])
- A couple of weeks ago our lesson was about us being "epistles." What is an epistle? (a letter)
- How many Epistles or Letters are there in the New Testament? (21)

Most of the books of the New Testament (21 out of the 27) are Epistles.

Hand out Bibles. Remind students to handle Bibles carefully and to help younger students find verses.

Paul wrote two Epistles to the people who lived in Corinth. Find his first Epistle to the Corinthians. Find Corinthians 12:20. (Have a student read this verse aloud.)

- How many members of the Body of Christ are there? (many!)
- How many bodies of Christ are there? (one)

There are many members but only one Body.

Now find Paul's Epistle to the Colossians. Find Colossians 1:18. (Have a student read this verse aloud.)

- What does "preeminence" mean? (*being above others, superior*)

**Jesus is the Head of the Church. He is the most important part of the Body.**

**Choose a couple of students to carefully collect the Bibles.**

8:15-8:30

**ACTIVITY/SNACK**

Supplies:                      Bibs or towels  
    Pudding  
    Plastic spoons  
    Napkins  
    Drinks

To illustrate how important it is for the parts of a body to work together, have two teams of three kids each stand at a table. One of the kids will be the "mouth." The other two will stand on either side, each one being a "hand." The right "hand" can only use his/her right hand, and the left "hand" his/her left. At your signal, have the teams race: The "hands" must tie the bib or towel around the "mouth's" neck and then feed a container of pudding to the "mouth." The first team to complete the task wins.

**Remind kids: It's hard to accomplish anything if the parts of a body aren't working together. As the Body of Christ, we need to work together, not against each other.**

Serve everyone pudding and drinks. Remind them to say a prayer of thanks before eating their snack.