



New Song
Community Church

Learning Communities, April 27/28

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES?

To become better and better disciples of Christ
TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Biblical Foundation of Functioning as the Body of Christ in preparation for S.H.A.P.E. training

S.H.A.P.E. - Spiritual Gifts, Hearth, Abilities, Personality, Experiences

S.H.A.P.E. training is to lead us to discover how God has created and prepared each of us to function as the Body of Christ together so we can “be the church on mission,” accomplishing God’s assignments.

This session is to identify the Biblical foundation upon which S.H.A.P.E. training and functioning as the church is based.

BIG PICTURE: The Church is all about Jesus...

- † *He chose the church as His method for His ongoing work*
- † *He said He will build His church to accomplish His purposes*
- † *He places the members in His Church with gifts and abilities*
- † *He defines His mission as more and better disciples*
- † *He empowers His church through the Holy Spirit*
- † *We are to follow, obey, serve and thus honor Jesus*
- † *We are to use our gifts and abilities for the “common good”*
- † *It is not optional to obediently serve in our role in the Body*

Romans 12: Actions to live as the Body/ Family/ Army of Christ

Romans 12:1–16 (ESV)

1. Surrender completely to God, v. 1
2. Be transformed by renewal of our minds, v. 2
3. Live true humility, v. 3
4. Live and work interdependently, vs. 4-5
5. Live as stewards of the Spirit's gifts for "the common good", vs. 6-8
6. Live LOVE: it's the "all in all" for living as the Body of Christ, vs. 9-16
 - V. 9-10 – blatant instructions about love
 - Vs. 11-16 – less obvious yet just as essential examples, all in plural:

1 Cor. 12: Realities of living as the Body/ Family/ Army of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:1–27 (ESV)

1. We serve either Jesus or His enemies (foundational reality), vs. 1-3
2. Spirit's gifts are ALL about God, vs. 4-6
3. Spirit's gifts are for Body of Christ, to accomplish His purposes, v. 7
4. God gives and arranges the Spirit's gifts – He is in charge,, vs. 8-11

Verses 18, 24b-25

5. Not only do we belong to Christ, we belong to one another, vs. 12-27

CONCLUSION and APPLICATION, v. 27

Takeaways... especially as we prepare for S.H.A.P.E. training