

**OTHER STUDIES
ON THE
BODY OF CHRIST**

IV. THE PROCESS - C. The Body of Christ - 6. Further Study and Reading

1. The book of Acts records the first several years of growth of the body of Christ. The following questions will help you in a personal study of Acts.
 - a. How did the body of Christ grow during these years?
Where did it expand?
What caused the growth in each case?
How can you apply the same principles to your own group?
 - b. How did the Christians exhibit their unity?
List all the different things they did together as one body.
What were the attitudes underlying their active unity?
 - c. List the different ways love was demonstrated among the Christians.
Compare their love with the love Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 13.
How can your group of believers grow more devoted to one another in love?
 - d. Write your own factual description of how the world responded to the body of Christ in different situations recorded in Acts.
How does this answer Jesus' prayer in John 17:21-23?

2. Later Paul wrote a letter to the church at Thessalonica. In the intervening period God caused the Thessalonian church to grow and develop.
 - a. How did the body of believers in Thessalonica begin (Acts 17:1-10)?
What were the immediate responses from the people?
 - b. What are the characteristics of the Thessalonian church (1 Thessalonians 1:1-10)?
How does Paul describe their ministry to that church (1 Thessalonians 2:1-20)?
How did they show their love? commitment? devotion?
 - c. How does your group need to become more like the Thessalonian church?
How do you need to become more like Paul in attitudes and behavior?

3. In most of Paul's letters he mentions things for which he is praying.
 - a. Select one of Paul's letters and list the different people for whom he prays and the things he prays for each one.
 - b. Who in the body of Christ do you pray for regularly? What do you pray for each one?

4. Read Paul's short letter to Philemon.
 - a. List the qualities of their love for one another.

 - b. Who is your closest brother or sister in the body of Christ?
Which of the above qualities can you help develop between the two of you?
How will you help develop those qualities?
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