



A Better Way

July 5-11, 2026

God has a colorful family, and therefore so do we. Only in the family of God can people so distinctly different be the same (equal in creation and redemption) and counted as sisters and brothers in a new family. Knowledge and understanding of this new family and our adoption into it would be a wonderful motivator for pursuing one another in diverse friendships.

THE BENEFITS OF RELATIONSHIP

In 1 Corinthians 12:12-26, Paul talked about the benefit of each member of a church using his or her giftings by using the analogy of a body without hands and feet. The fuller context of this passage is about the function of a church, but the ideas can be applied to all areas of our lives. There is a benefit in knowing and interacting with others who are not like you. Knowing people who are not like you allows greater flourishing. Using [1 Corinthians 12:12-26](#) as a guide, think through the following five benefits of knowing someone who is different than you.

1. Serving: What do we learn about God and His Spirit by serving with people who are different than us?

2. A Taste of Heaven: If we do not interact with a variety of people here on earth, how excited can we be about the thought of heaven where all people will worship the Lord together?

3. Edification: What could you learn from others that you could never learn from your own personal circle? Why should we be genuinely curious about experiences outside of our own?

4. Gaining Understanding and Wisdom: What wisdom is there to be found by consulting people who do not share your same outlook and experiences?

5. Seeing in Color: While seeing the world without color seems like a good idea in theory, ethnicity is not a result of the fall. How does diminishing the differences between us discount God's creative work in making us different?

APPLICATION

We all need to answer the question, "Do I really care?"

On the issues we have discussed today, are you engaged or are you apathetic?