



1 Cor 12:12

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

A caring community with every member equipped to demonstrate Christ, working with others to advance God's Kingdom in Chard and the world

Seek God – in prayer, worship, study of the Scripture and fellowship, we value the pursuit of God in Jesus Christ;

Love Generously – in time, talent and treasure, to stimulate one another to good works and a lifestyle of generosity;

Expect transformation – to see God's Holy Spirit move in individual lives, in the church and across our community

You may have been coming to Forefront for years. Or maybe you just popped in for one Sunday. Either way, if you feel moved to act on anything mentioned in the talks, we would be pleased to pray with you.

Ask someone in the service to point you in the right direction, or call in during the week at Forefront Community Centre (next to Chard Post Office sorting centre).

1st Corinthians, part 3



Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 14:1

11 – Directions for Worship ▶ 7 October ▶ Tom Smith ▶ 1Cor 11

We'll try to get our heads around verses 1-16, but let's not argue about it! Verses 17-34 explains the profound, wonderful meaning of the simple meal of bread and wine—the Lord's Supper.

12 – The Body of Christ ▶ 14 October ▶ Michael Tiffany ▶ 1Cor 12

The Spirit allocates gifts among members of the Body of Christ so Jesus can be served as Lord, and God the Father can work his purposes out in the world (vv4-6). Each is given a 'manifestation' of the Spirit, and we are to eagerly desire greater gifts ... but everything is provided for the common good.

13 – Motivation for ministry ▶ 21 October ▶ David Burfield ▶ 1Cor 13

If you were to ask, "what is the difference in the way Christians do things?" this chapter has Paul's answer. It's all about the deep inner motivation of love. Try reading the passage, but inserting your own name instead of the word "love", and allow the Holy Spirit to gently convict you.

14 – What is the church meeting for? ▶ 28 October ▶ Nigel Marsh ▶ 1Cor 14

Corinth had magnified the ecstatic use of the gift of tongues to primary importance in their worship services, but that's not what the gift is useful for—nor what the service is about, Paul says. The goal of the Christian meeting is to communicate truth to build up the body of believers.

15 – Evil defeated and death overcome ▶ 4 November ▶ Keith Barnard ▶ 1Cor 15

What was the evidence that Jesus was raised from the dead? And what will our own resurrection be like? Getting this right is absolutely fundamental to an individual's faith and a church's health: "If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied." (v19)

16 – Serving in fellowship ▶ 11 November ▶ Tom Smith ▶ 1Cor 16

Paul ends this letter with encouraging words about finance, fellowship and service in the growing, scattered Christian Church. Disciples of Jesus are now a world-wide family!

Paul founded the church at Corinth around 50AD during his second missionary journey.

A few years later, on his third journey, he spent three years teaching in Ephesus. While there, a lively exchange of letters began with Corinth, 180 miles away (1Cor 5:9 suggests Paul has already written once, but we don't have that letter). His correspondents have told him (verbally and in writing) of problems in the church, and asked his opinion about rivalry and divisions, immorality and doctrine. Paul replies in this letter, sent with Timothy (1Cor 4:17, Acts 19:22).

We looked at the first part in Spring, the second part in Summer. You can find the recordings of the speakers at forefront.org.uk/sermons/ and the series notes are also available through the website.

In chapter 15, Paul quotes from the Old Testament (Genesis 2, Psalm 8, Isaiah 22, 25 and 28, Hosea 13), but also from the poet Menander ("Bad company corrupts good character"). Menander was a comedian and dramatist, a contemporary of Aristotle (about 300 years before Paul quoted him). The carving shows Menander looking at the masks worn by actors of his day.

