

**Uncomfortable: The Awkward and Essential  
Challenge of Christian Community  
Week 3: Uncomfortable People**

**TALK IT OVER**

**BIG IDEA OF THE MESSAGE:**

The church is made up of people we may not always get along with or agree with—but that’s something God can use for our good. Despite our differences, the Holy Spirit unites us and works in our hearts and communities for our good and His glory.

**KEY POINTS & SCRIPTURES**

- 1. Everyone is welcome and has a role to play in the body of Christ.**
- 2. Being part of a church is not easy.**
- 3. Although we’re different, we’re united in the most important way—buy the Spirit.**

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Day 1:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**Day 2:** Romans 12:4-5

**Day 3:** Colossians 3:14-16

**Day 4:** Ephesians 4:15-16

**Day 5:** Philippians 2:3

**Day 6:** Romans 12:10

**Day 7:** 2 Corinthians 13:11

**Start talking.** Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What is one skill you secretly possess?

**Start thinking.** Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. Why is verse 12 such a good illustration of verse 13?
- What could be an example of a “weaker” part of the body of Christ (v. 22)? Of a “less honorable” part (v. 23)? Of a “presentable” part (v. 24)? Does each receive the treatment it should at your church?

**Start sharing.** Choose some questions to create openness.

- How is being part of a local church sometimes difficult?
- How does digging into the local church require us to form relationships with people we wouldn’t normally form relationships with? How is that a good thing for you? For the other person? For the whole body?
- Being a Christian is about being baptized into a new family—not just mom, dad, and kids, but a church family. What can you do to help those who come into our church feel more like part of the “family”?

**Start praying.** Be bold and pray with power.

Jesus, You bring people from all different walks of life together into Your church to build us together into a functioning body. Help us to appreciate all the other parts of this body that we belong to and to actively support and encourage them as part of the same body. Help us to share the grace that You so freely give to us in our relationships with the people around us in this church. Because people are messy, there are lots of opportunities for feelings to get hurt, people to get left out, or needs to go overlooked. Bind us with Your Holy Spirit to keep this body healthy and active, even when things are uncomfortable. Amen.

**Start doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Step outside yourself. Most of the times, we form relationships based on *our* wants or desires. This Sunday, take a moment to step back and look at the other people around you. Who wouldn’t you ordinarily connect with? Make an effort to get to know them. You don’t have to become best friends, but they’re part of the “body” you belong to. Get to know them and see how that might be a blessing to you both.