

August 29th, Teaming With Hope
Part 2 in the series 'Go Together'

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Name some things that do go together and some things that don't go together, e.g. peanut butter & jelly, toothpaste & orange juice.

Name some things that sound like they wouldn't go together but in your experience actually do.

READ 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, 25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

How does encouraging diversity in the church create unity?

Why do you think God created us with different gifts, talents and callings? Why not just make us all interested in and good at everything?

As the body of Christ what are we called to do?

A: The Great Commission, Go Together

READ Matthew 28:19–20

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Can you remember what Jim said a ‘commission’ is in last week’s message?

A: Co=together, Mission=task... the together task

Why do you think God calls us to take on this mission together?

How do the volunteer teams at Hope help us, as a church, to function as the hands and feet of Jesus, helping the message of his gospel reach more and more people?

Who does volunteering benefit?

In last week’s message, Jim mentioned a conference he attended where the speaker, Mark Batterson, described coaching his child’s basketball team which, regularly involved reminding the players ‘You’re on offense!’, as they kept defaulting to the role of defense. He expressed, *“You know, I wonder if you really listened if you could hear Jesus sometimes shouting to the church from the sidelines, “You’re on offense!”*

What do you make of this analogy?

What do you think it looks like to play defense / offense?

Why do you think many churches slip into the role of defense?