**INTRODUCTION**

To some extent, the American dream can be summarized in one word: autonomy. In our society people are on a quest to be completely independent--to be free to do what they want when they want. At first glance this may appear desirable, but it is actually an empty destination. As we take a look at 1 Corinthians 12 we'll discover that fulfillment is not found in isolation, but in becoming an integral and important part of what God is doing in the world.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Where do you see individualism celebrated in our culture?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. How has God designed us, as a body of believers, to function?

3. When have you felt the closest to God? How connected/disconnected were you to a body of believers?

4. How have you seen your faith grow due to your connection with other Christians?

5. What is God's purpose for you as a functioning part of the body of Christ? What integral and important work has he designed for you?

6. What are you currently doing with a group of believers to accomplish God's work in the world?

**THINK ABOUT IT**

A body part by itself is no good. What can a hand do if it is separated from the body? An ear? An eye? How can you remind yourself of the importance of staying connected to the body?

**WHAT WILL YOU DO?**

Visit www.northpoint.org/service or www.buckheadchurch.org/service for opportunities to serve in our community with others believers.

**CHANGING YOUR MIND**

*Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.* 1 Corinthians 12:27