

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



August 27, 2023 - "Diversity" - #2 in the series Confronting Conflict

Texts Referenced: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 21-31; Prov. 19:11

1. What stood out to you about the message?

2. Consider this explanation of diversity: *composed of differing elements and qualities.*
 - Why is diversity considered unifying by some and divisive by others?
 - In what contexts have you come to understand various aspects of diversity?

3. **Read I Corinthians 12:12-14, 21-26.**
 - Why is Paul's use of the metaphor of the body and its many parts an effective way to understand diversity within the church?
 - What issues might cause a situation of diversity to lead to division or conflict?
 - How is conflict within the church similar to an autoimmune disorder?

4. **Read I Corinthians 12:27-31.**
 - How do these verses help us understand the role and purposes of diverse gifts in the church context?
 - What does Paul mean when he says, " Now eagerly desire the greater gifts"?

5. **Read Proverbs 19:11.**
 - Why is patience a key strategy in dealing with conflict?
 - Which of the following ways to confront church conflict resonates with you?
 - *Believe the best in and champion one another*
 - *Set aside personal preferences for the good of all*
 - *Champion the gifts and diversity of others*
 - *Rejoice and suffer with each other*
 - *Spread health*

6. How can we pray for you?