If One Suffers, All Suffer

November 8, 2026

1 Corinthians 12:26

Main Point

Believers are deeply connected in Christ, and we are called to share in one another's suffering and joy.

Part 1: Master Teacher (10 Minutes)

Introduction

How connected do you feel to other believers, both locally and globally?

God designed His church to function as one unified body.

Biblical Teaching

1. We Are One Body (v. 26)
   - Believers are interconnected.
   - No one is isolated.
   - Unity reflects Christ.
2. We Share in Suffering (v. 26)
   - Suffering is communal.
   - Compassion binds believers.
   - Empathy strengthens faith.
3. We Share in Joy (v. 26)
   - Celebration unites.
   - Encouragement builds faith.
   - Joy strengthens relationships.

Takeaway

The church is a connected body where believers support one another in both suffering and joy.

Part 2: Group Discussion (25 minutes)

Facilitator Guidance

- Help participants connect the idea of unity to both local relationships and the global church.

Discussion Questions

1. Living as One Body
    - What does it mean to be connected to other believers?
    - How does unity impact your faith?
    - What challenges unity?
2. Sharing in Suffering
    - How can you support others in difficult times?
    - What keeps people from engaging in others' struggles?
    - How can you grow in empathy?
3. Celebrating Together
    - Why is it important to celebrate with others?
    - How does encouragement strengthen relationships?
    - Who can you encourage this week?
4. Unity as a Witness
    - How does unity impact how others see the church?
    - Who is impacted by your relationships?
    - How can unity create gospel opportunities?

Next Steps & Call to Action (5 minutes)

Facilitator Closing Thought:

When we live in unity, we reflect the heart of Christ to a watching world.

Action Step:

Encourage or support one person in a meaningful way this week.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for unity.
- Pray for compassion.
- Pray for strong relationships.