

## Let's Get in SHAPE

(Adapted from Pastor Mike's sermon on 1/8/23)

### 1 Cor. 12:12-27

<sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>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." <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>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; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

▲ **THEME:** "You are *shaped* by God, on purpose, for purpose."

### ▲ DISCUSSION:

*"You can make a difference in the lives of others when you've aligned your God given SHAPE with the body of Christ."* – Rev. Mike Morgan

1. Have you ever taken a personal assessment of any kind (ie. Meyers/Briggs, Enneagram, CliftonStrengths, Spiritual Gifts, SHAPE)? If so, what did you learn and how was it helpful?
2. Share a story of when you felt like you were really functioning out of your spiritual gifts. Discuss how it benefitted, blessed, or made the community better.
3. Read 1 Cor. 12:12-27. According to Paul (who wrote 1 Corinthians), who or what is it that makes us a united body? Who or what arranges us as members in the body? Who's body is it? Why does it matter?
4. ReRead 1 Cor. 12:14-18. Some body parts say, "I'm not needed" while others say, "I don't need you." Which do you relate with more and why? What is the point Paul is trying to make?
5. *As Bel Air Church, we believe God has uniquely shaped each of us as vital members of the body of Christ. We belong to one another. We need one another. We are united to one another. And it is our God-given responsibility to build up the body of Christ.* How might discovering your SHAPE be helpful in "building up the body of Christ"?
6. Read Ephesians 2:10. Now read it again in the "Message" translation. What images come to mind when you hear the word "workmanship"? What has God SHAPed us for? Share a time when you've teamed up with someone in important work. What do you think is the work that God has for us as the "body of Christ"?

### ▲ SUPER SET

Want to learn how God has uniquely SHAPed you? As a community, we want to be in the best spiritual SHAPE we can be. This requires all of us to **discover our SHAPE**. Take some time now as a group and scan the QR Code to take your assessment today!

