



Sermon Discussion Guide

July 19 & 20, 2025

"Why Doesn't Spirituality Work as a Private Pursuit?"

[1 Corinthians 12:12, 18-27](#)

Faith Meets the Real World is a new sermon series that explores how our faith in Jesus shapes the way we live in everyday situations—at home, at work, in relationships, and in the world around us. Each week, we'll tackle one big question about how to follow Jesus in real, practical ways that bring hope, healing, and light to a broken world.

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on hopeonline.tv. Did you have any ah-ha moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read [1 Corinthians 12:12-27](#) – "One Body with Many Parts"

- What does this passage teach about God's design for how the church should function?
- How does Paul's body analogy reveal the value of every member in the church?
- How does this passage reflect the relational nature of God and his vision for interdependence?
- What does verse 26 reveal about shared joy and suffering in the body of Christ?

Read [Mark 6:30-44](#) – "Jesus Feeds Five Thousand"

- What does this passage reveal about Jesus' awareness of people's physical and emotional needs?
- What can we learn from the disciples' reaction to the crowd's hunger and Jesus' response? What is one way you could practice availability over convenience this week?
- What emotions do you feel when you sense you don't have enough to offer? How does Jesus transform the disciples' limited resources into an abundant meal? What "small thing" could you offer God today, trusting him to multiply it?
- What does it feel like to be seen and cared for in a crowd? How does this story highlight Jesus' compassion and leadership?

Read [Hebrews 10:24-25](#) – "A Call to Persevere"

- What does this passage teach about the role of mutual encouragement in the Christian life?
- Why does the author warn against neglecting to meet together? What barriers tend to keep you from regular community, and how might you overcome one of them?
- What does this passage say about stirring one another up? What might it look like to build this kind of accountability into your life?
- When have you experienced community that spurred you toward spiritual growth?

Read [Acts 2:42-47](#) – "The Believers Form a Community"

- What does this passage reveal about the core habits of Christian fellowship?
- Why do signs and wonders accompany the life of this early church? What does that suggest about the spiritual climate we should be praying for today?
- How does the generosity of this community challenge your assumptions about ownership and sharing?
- What kind of impact did this community have on the people around them? Why do you think others were drawn to them daily?

APPLY

Pick one of the applications below to put into practice this week ...

- **Join the body.** Make a plan to engage more fully in Christian community this month. That might mean joining a small group, showing up consistently, or reaching out to someone you've been distant from.
- **Strengthen the ties.** Choose one practice from Acts 2:42-47—prayer, fellowship, generosity, shared meals, or worship—and commit to intentionally weaving it into your weekly rhythm. Invite one or two others to do the same.
- **Live as the church.** Ask God to show you where you've been consuming church rather than embodying it. Then take one bold step this week to live like an active part of the body—serving, sacrificing, and helping others grow in faith.