

## 1 Corinthians 12:27

### **‘Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it’.**

I continue the story from last week's TFTD where Woody and his toy friends struggled with fear and worry at the thought of being rejected and unloved. The toys continued to be put through many trials and struggles in Toy Story 3 where they come up against much evil. Andy's older now and off to college the toys are worrying again about getting separated or where they may end up. Rightly so in an epic adventure and a rollercoaster of emotions the toys end up in a day nursery, eventually without Woody. They have not ended up in a good place, Lotso the gentle speaking hugging bear is not all he seems, he turns out to be an evil bully. As the toys are tortured by day and locked up by night it seems like they are doomed. But like all good friends they pull together in times of trouble, good overcomes evil, united together through love.

Currently we are facing many trials and struggles in our daily life. A simple pop to the shops becomes a military operation. It's a time when we are much in need of our friends and those closest to us. Yet we are having to keep away from all those we want to be close to. When we're alone it can be testing, disheartening and difficult and some days I've felt like I've been on an emotional rollercoaster. Fortunately, we are still able to unite in God's love, by offering support, being caring and looking out for each other. This is very important now in this period of Lockdown but also equally important in everyday normal life. We all have bad days, we all have battles in life, but what a difference a positive word can make, a smile, a joke, a high five, a hug or a coffee with a friend.

When Paul wrote to the churches in Ephesus, he brought together some of the major themes of his teaching. God has a plan. Christ has died to give us freedom, life and a future. Above all, Paul's letter emphasizes the need for unity. God is our peace and followers of Jesus need to recognize that we are all joined, and we should all work for and support one another. The bible is full of verses on working together as a team. To accomplish great things, we all need teammates and a supporting cast to pick us up-and we all need to look for opportunities to pick others up as well. The best teams do not have people with all the same skills, like sports teams need different players in certain areas. So does our church.

It's been nearly a year since I began working at CCBH. When I arrived, I prayed to God to show me what to concentrate on. Every time He said relationships, whenever I wondered where to turn next God would again confirm this word along with unity. God has been so good putting all the teams together that I'm involved in.

Thank you to **everyone** who encourages me, works alongside me physically and in prayer, united in the body of Christ. Each one of you playing an equally important part, contributing a small piece that when placed together has produced something wonderful that could only come from God.

Let's always remember we are stronger when we are together, and we can win any battle when we're united in God's love.

With love and prayers

Jeanette

*Remember, you can send your prayer request to: [Prayer@baystonhillchurch.org](mailto:Prayer@baystonhillchurch.org)*

*Or ring: (01743) 583215*