



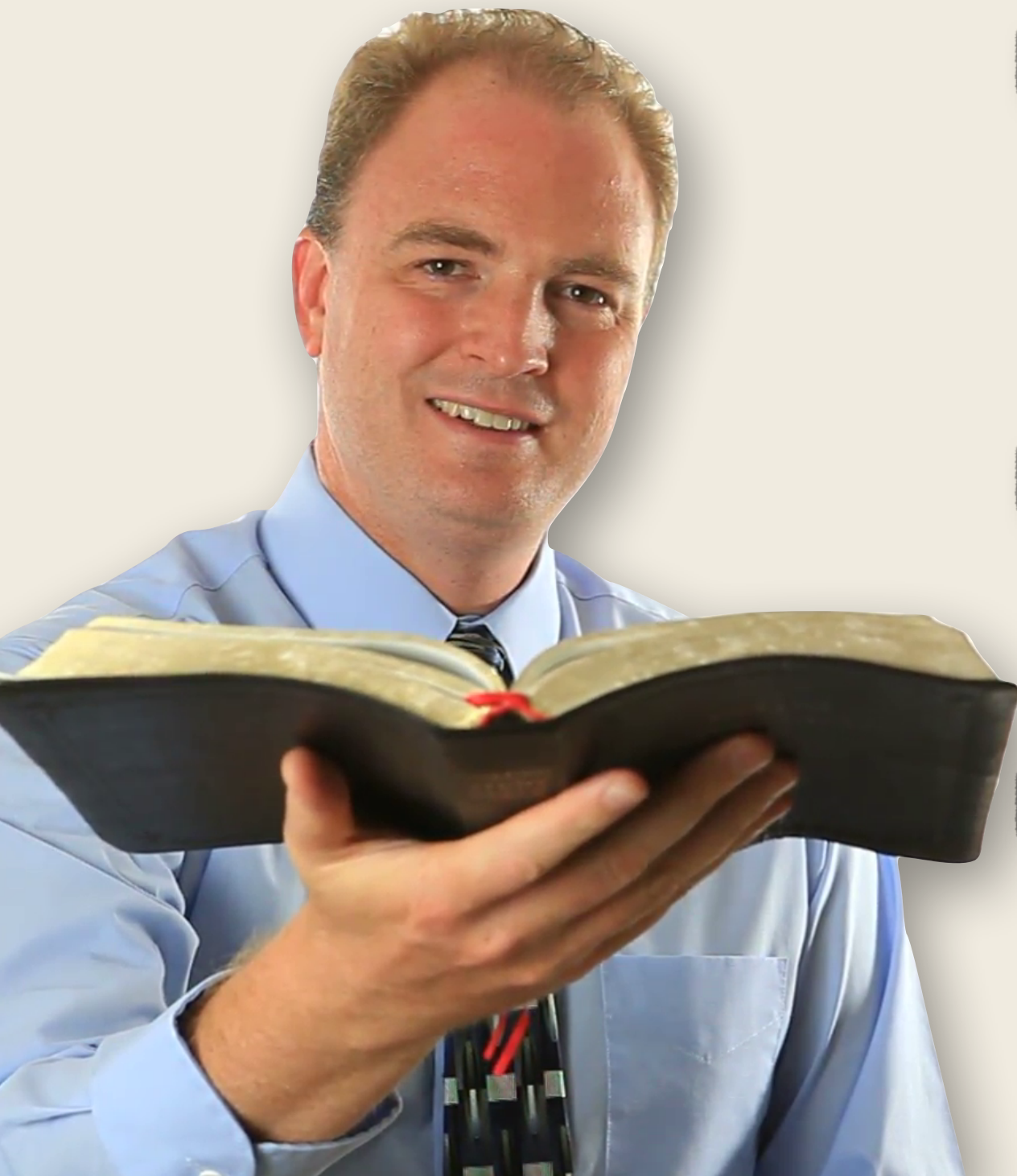
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

■ The Use of Biblical Metaphors

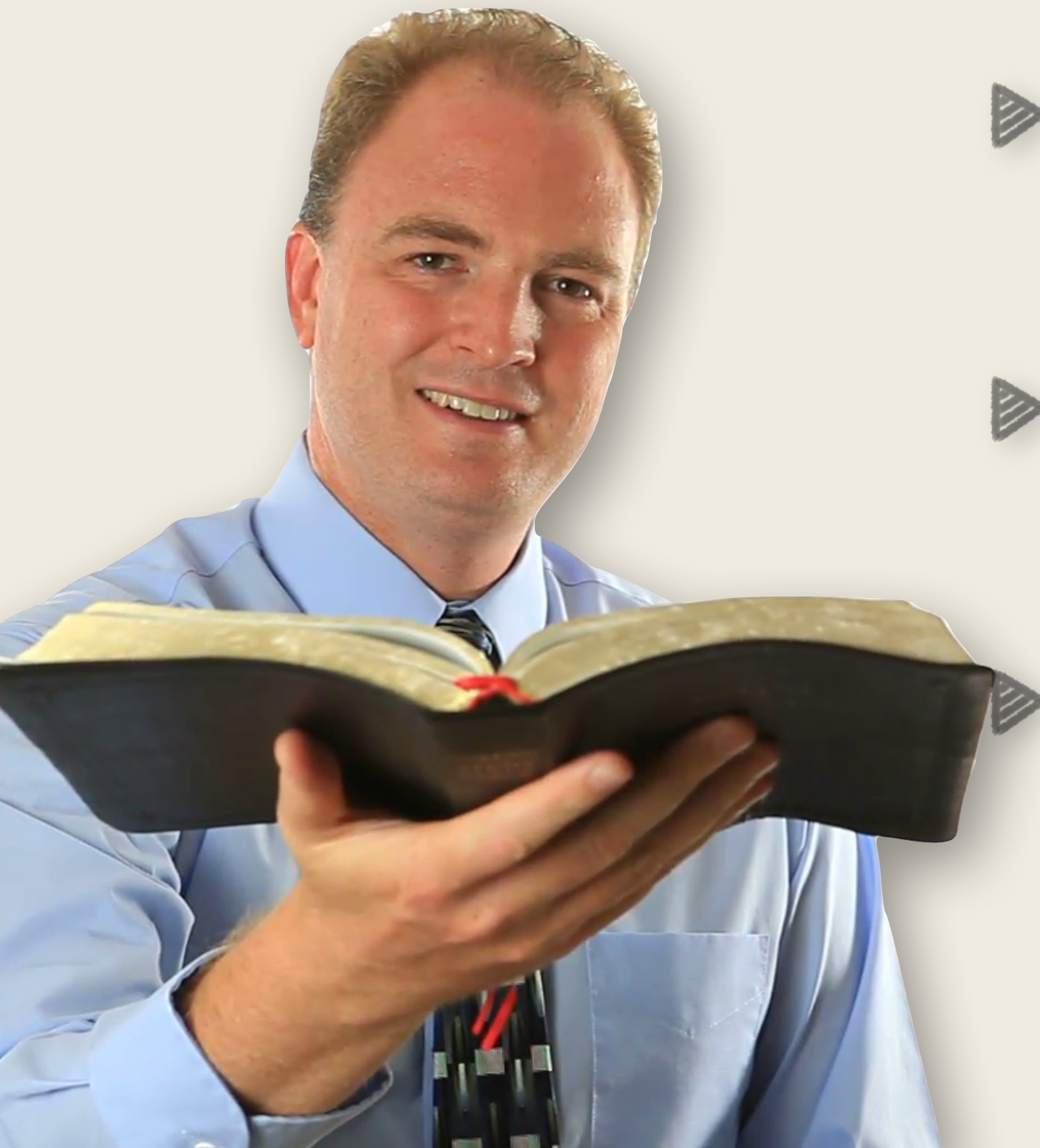


- ▶ WARNING: MUST NOT force every detail of a metaphor to have an important meaning or application.
- ▶ INSTRUCTION: SEEK for the main lesson and intended application of the metaphor.
- ▶ APPLICATION: PRINCIPLES applied from the metaphor are to be applied in harmony with other Biblical teaching.

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

■ The Body of CHRIST

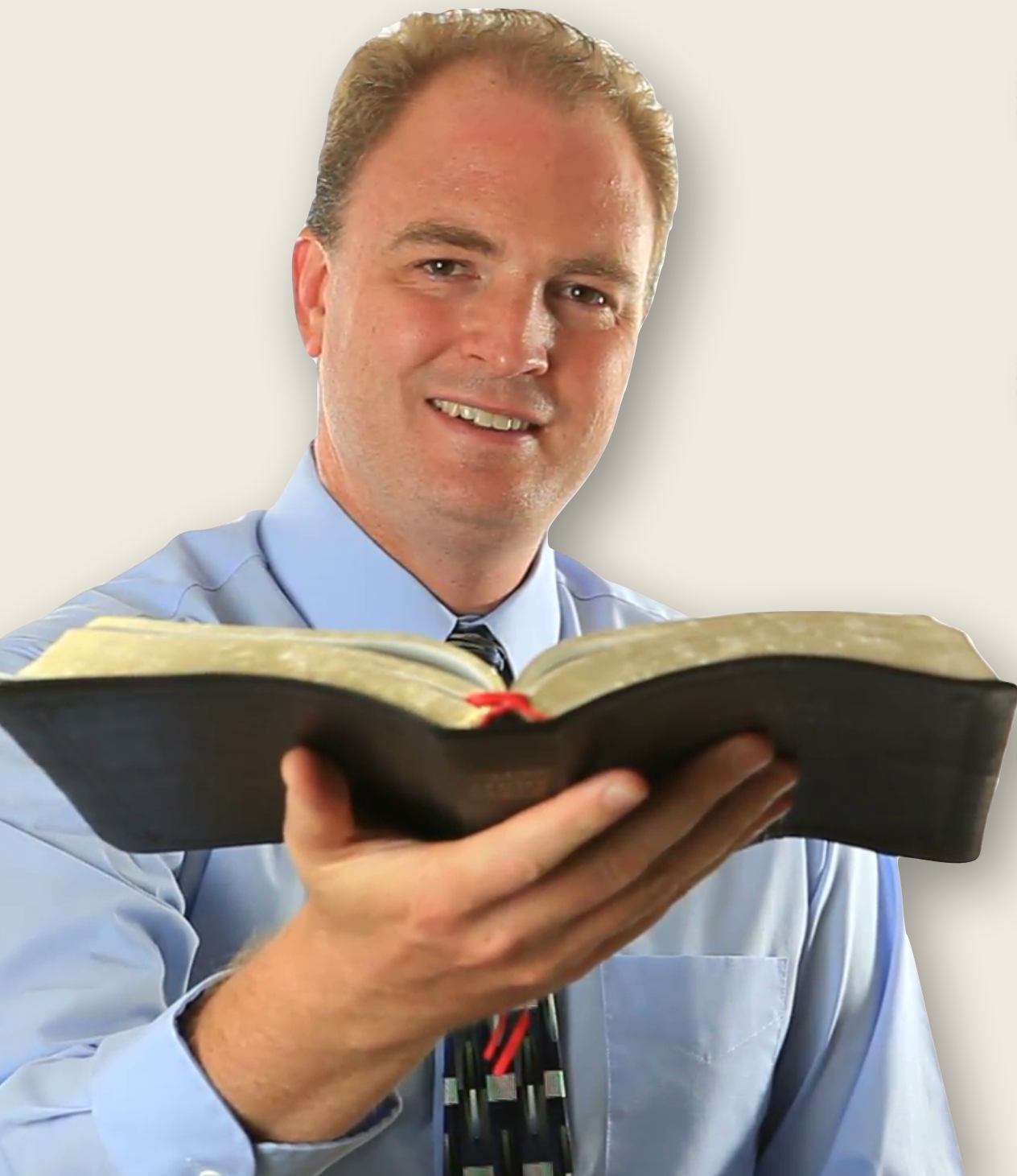


- ▶ Christ's physical body (John 19:38-42; 20:12; 1 Cor. 10:16; Heb 10:5,10)
- ▶ The church of Christ (Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:4; 5:23, 30; Col. 1:18, 24; 2:19; 3:15)
- ▶ Individual members of Christ's universal body are to be a part of, serve in & help nourish the local church (1 Cor. 12:12-30; Rom. 12:3-21; Eph. 4:11-16)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

■ The Body of CHRIST



- ▶ Emphasizes our obligation to God and relation to Him through Christ (Eph. 2:16; Rom. 12:1-8)
- ▶ Emphasizes our obligation and relation to every other believer in the world (Rom. 12:9-13; 1 Cor. 10:17; Eph. 3:6)
- ▶ Emphasizes our obligation and relation to every other member of the local body of believers of which we are a part (Eph. 4:11-16; Rom. 12:4-17; 1 Cor. 12:12-27)

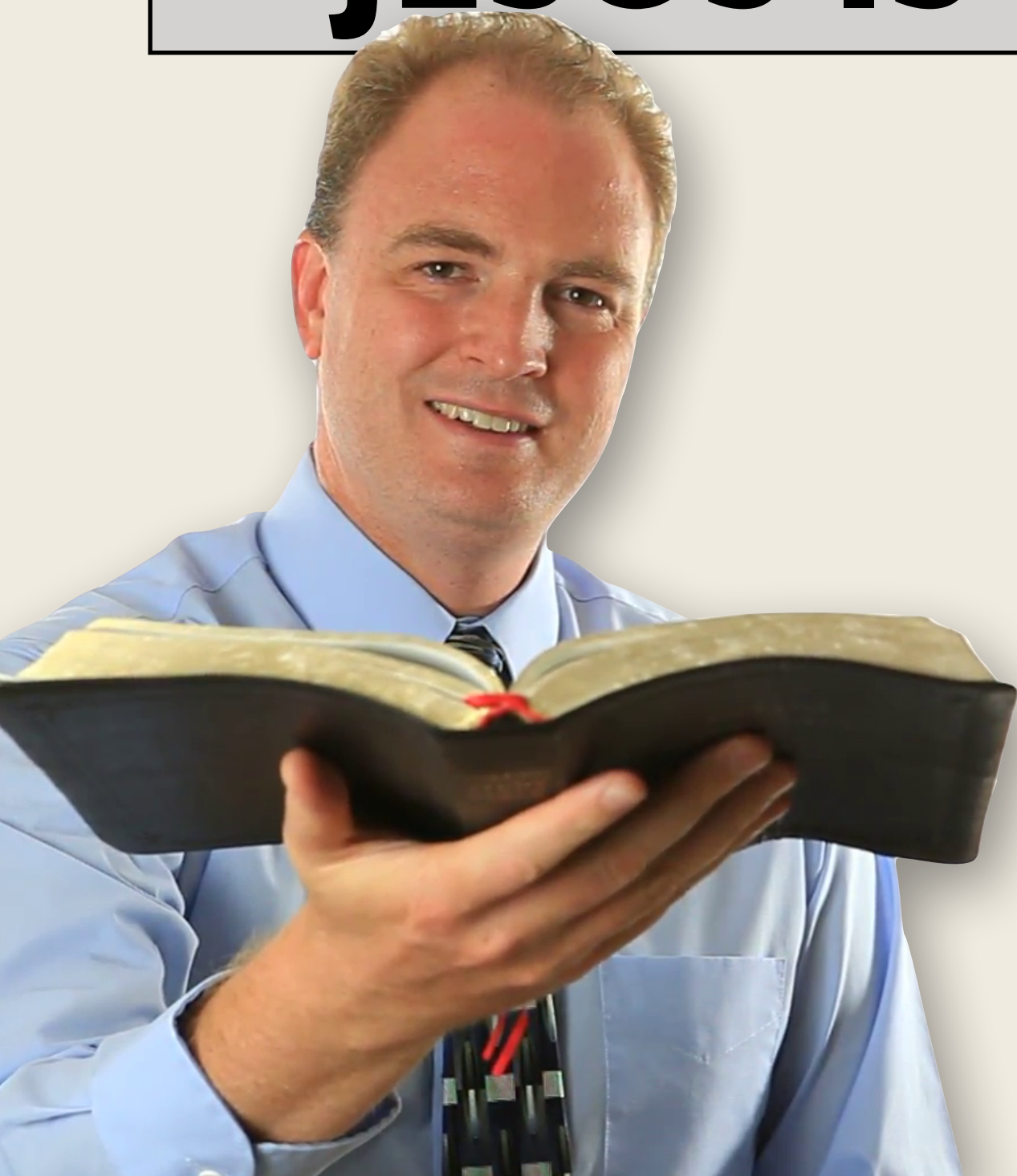
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

JESUS IS THE HEAD

Ephesians 1:22–23
(NKJV)

²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.



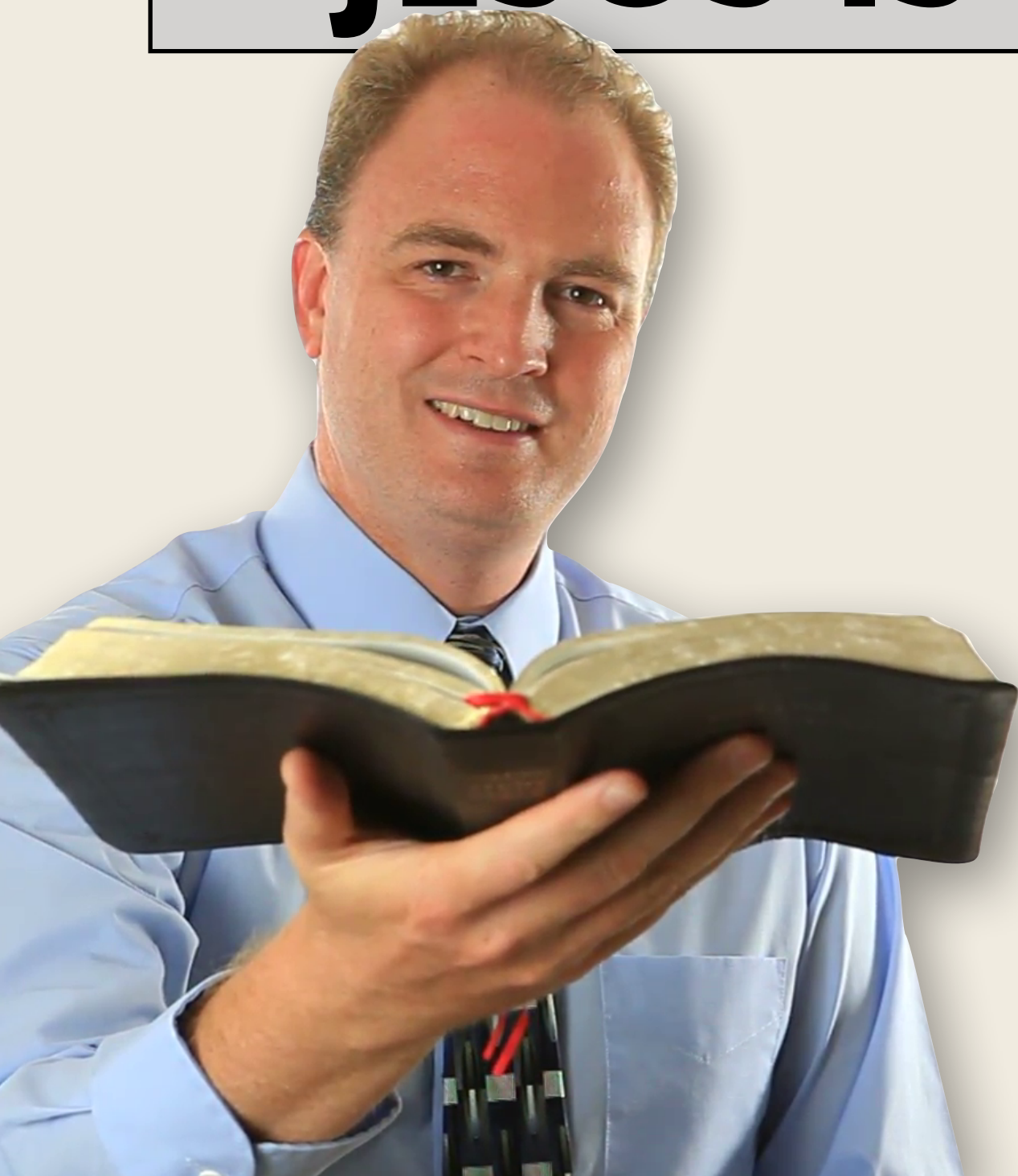
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

JESUS IS THE HEAD

Ephesians 5:23
(NKJV)

23 For the husband is
head of the wife, as
also Christ is head of
the church; and He is
the Savior of the body.



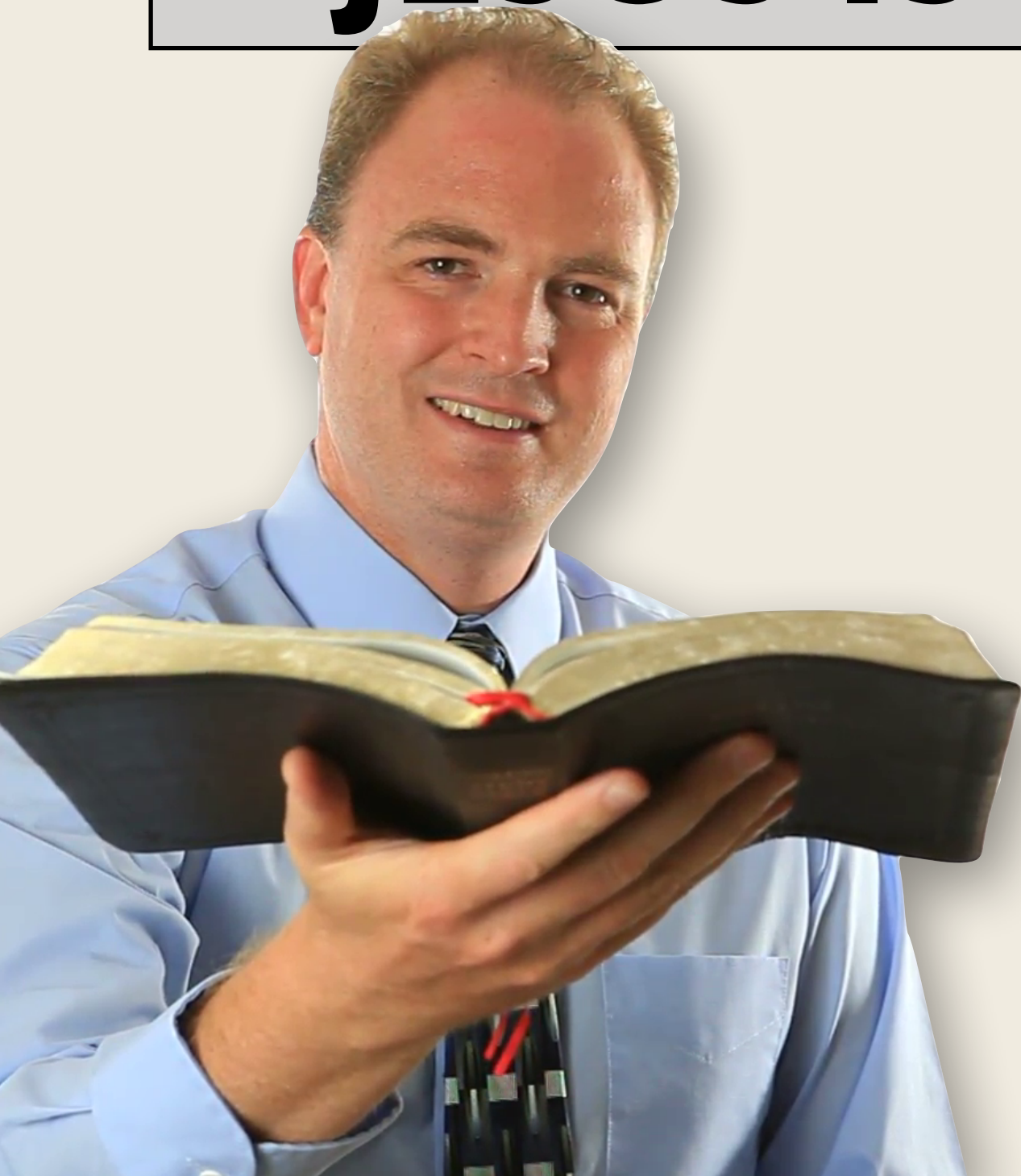
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

JESUS IS THE HEAD

**Colossians 1:18
(NKJV)**

¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.



“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

JESUS IS THE HEAD



- ▶ Jesus is the one Who gives directions to the body (Mat. 17:5; 28:18; Heb. 1:1,2)
- ▶ Jesus has made His will known through His apostles (Mat. 28:19,20; 1 Cor. 2:12,13; Eph. 3:3-5; 2:20; 4:11,12; 1 Jn 4:6)
- ▶ Jesus's body is not divided (1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 4:4-7; 5:23)

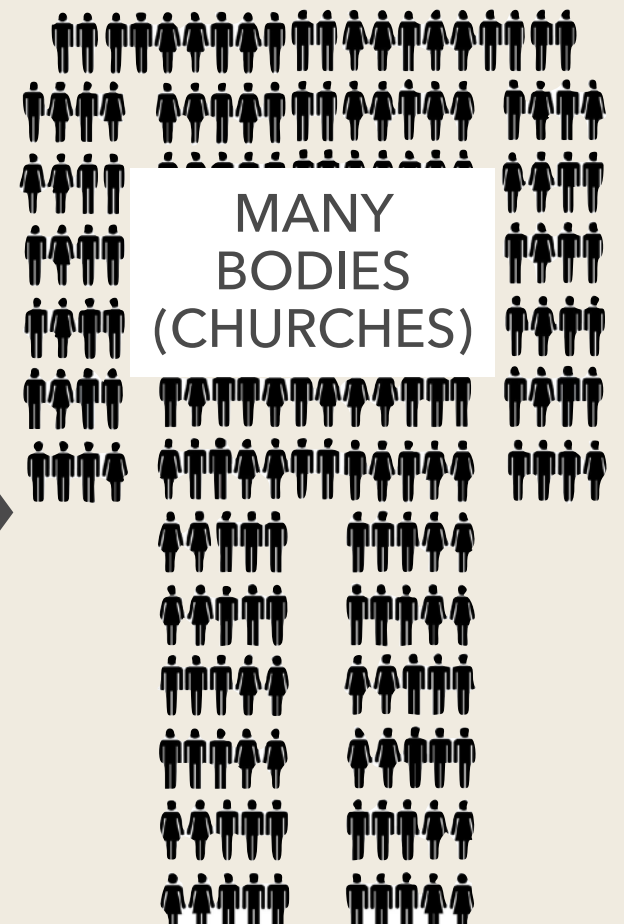
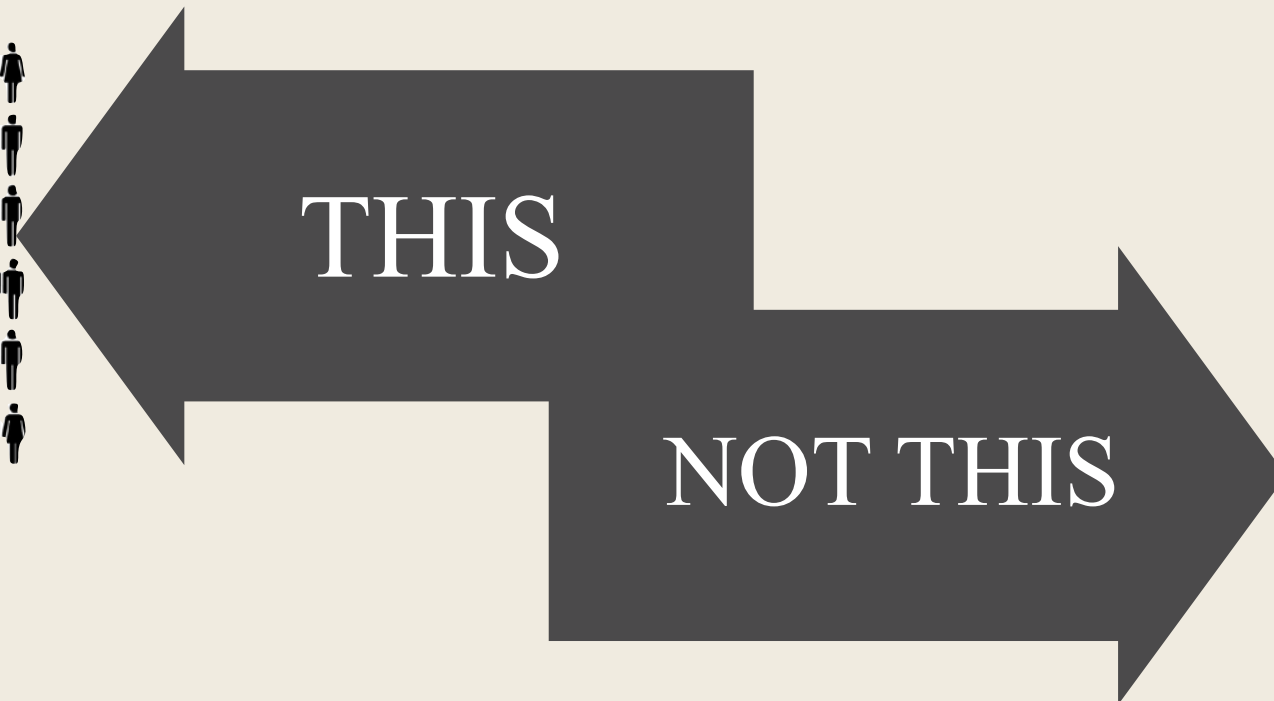
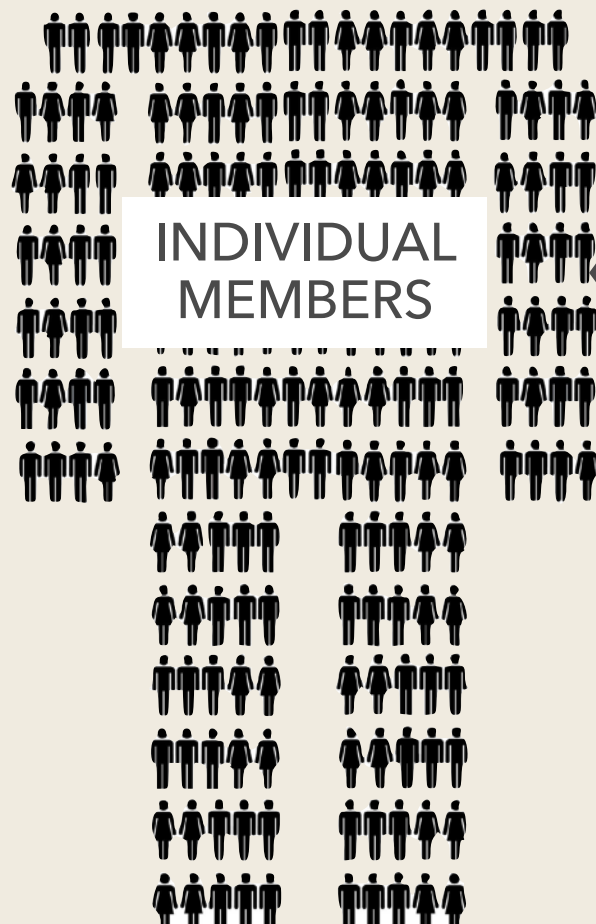
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

JESUS IS THE HEAD

ONE HEAD. ONE BODY.

ONE HEAD. MANY BODIES



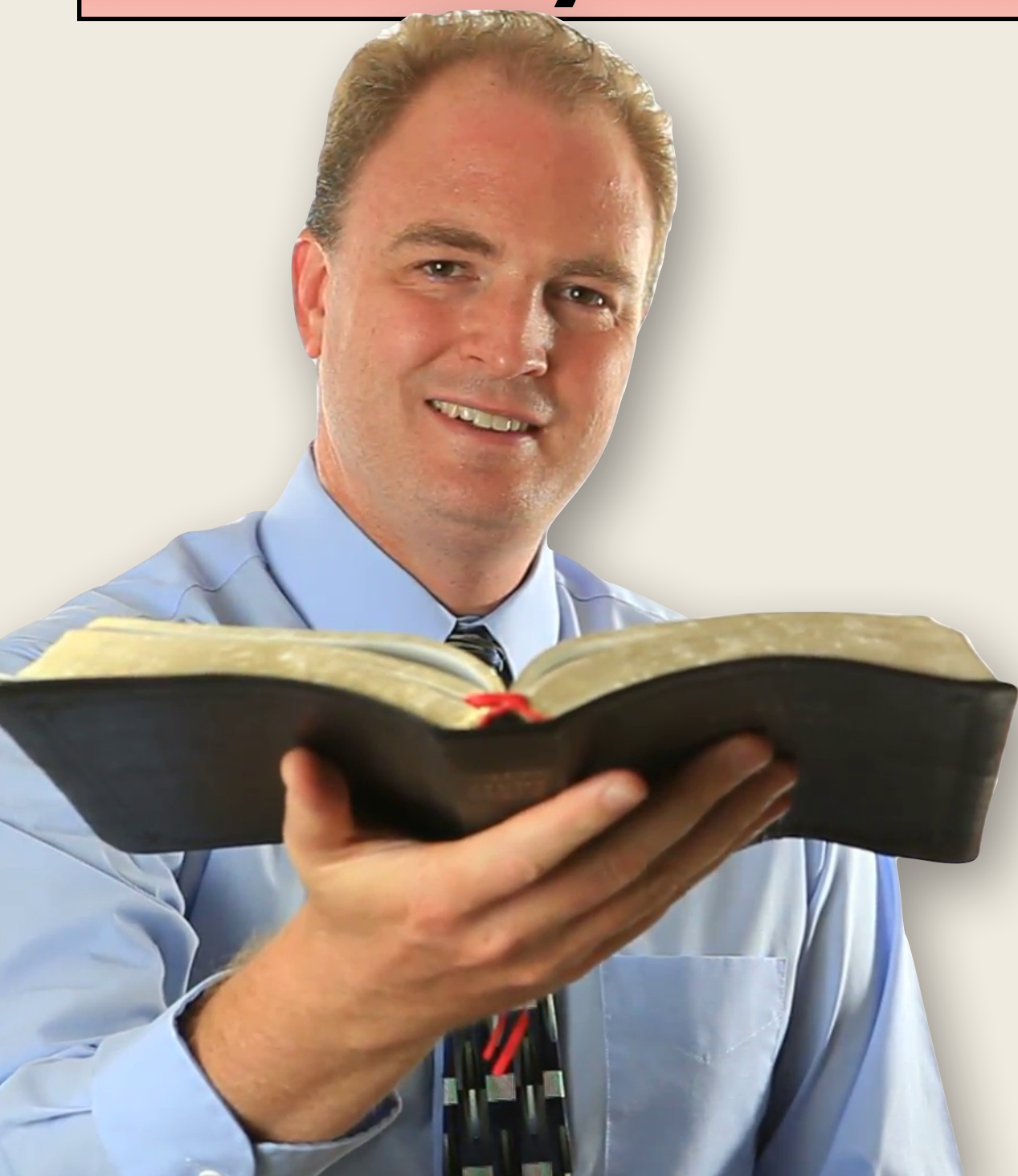
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ Submits To Christ!

Ephesians 5:24
(NKJV)

24 Therefore, just as
the church is subject to
Christ, so *let* the wives
be to their own
husbands in
everything.



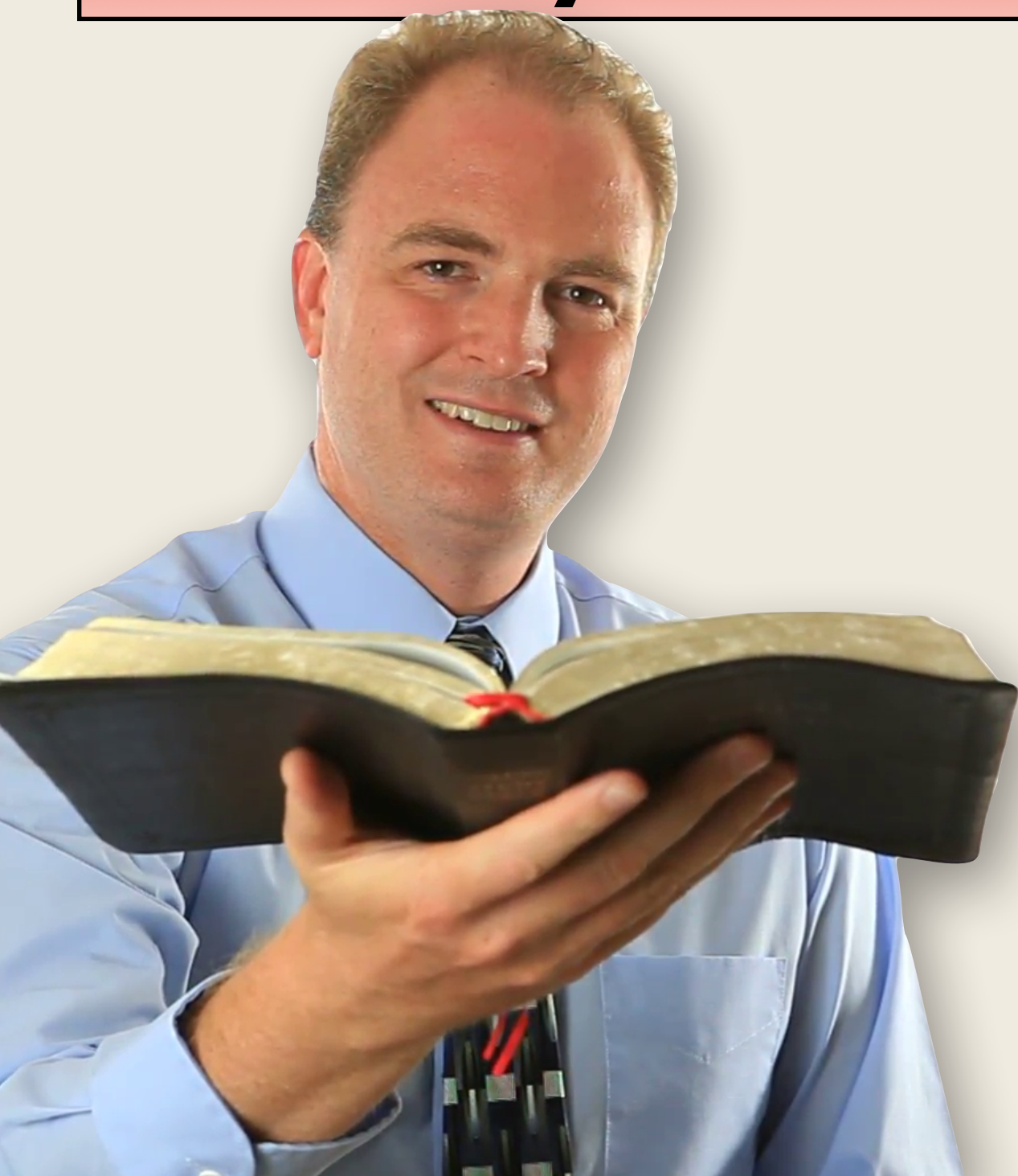
“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ Submits To Christ!

**Colossians 3:17
(NKJV)**

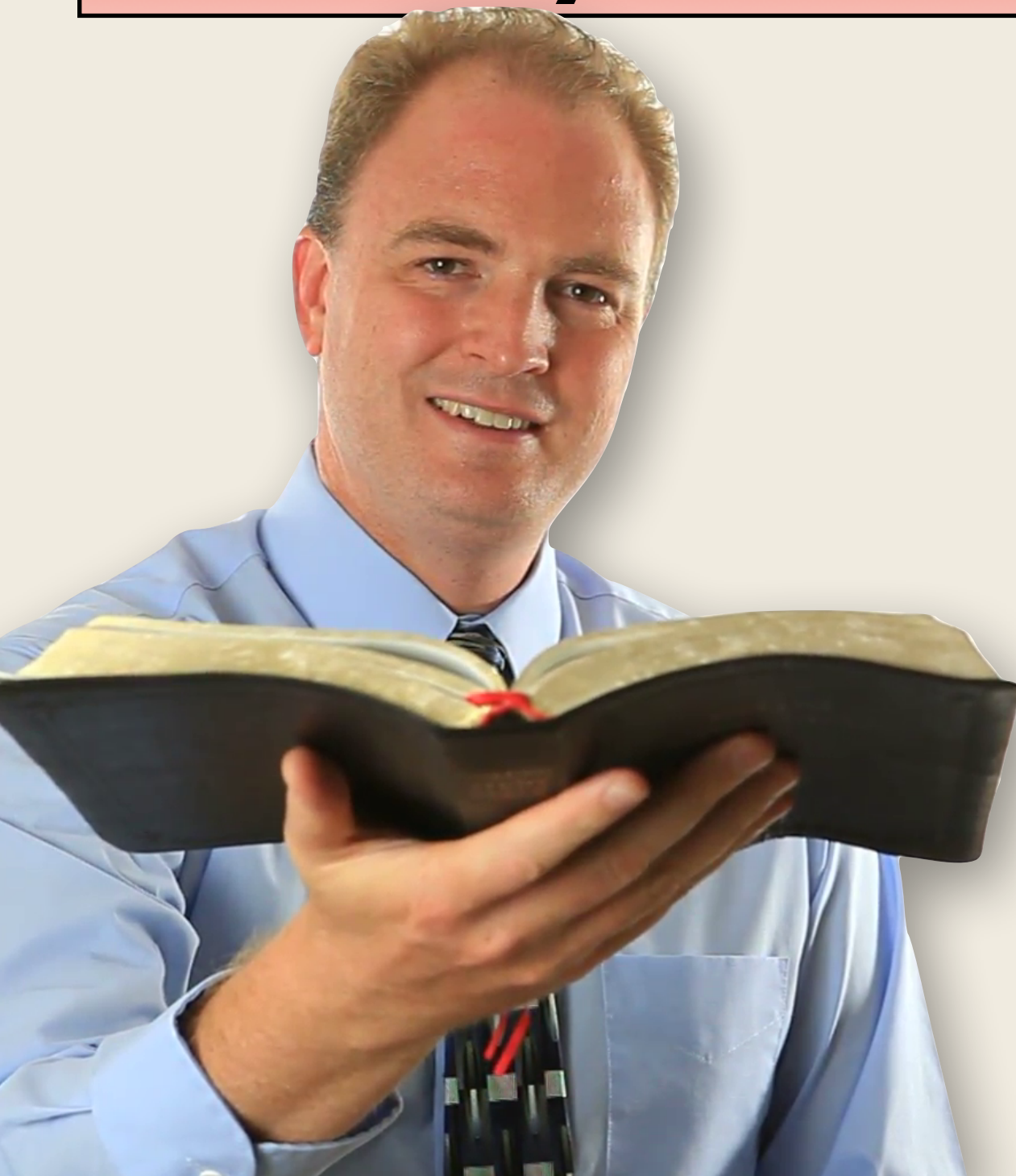
¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.



“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ Submits To Christ!



- ▶ The way of salvation (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 12:12)
- ▶ The how and when we worship (John 4:24)
- ▶ The organization of the local church (Eph. 4:11,12)
- ▶ The work of the local church
 - Edification (Act 20:28, 32; Co 2:6, 7; 1 Cor. 14:26).
 - Evangelism (Mat 28:18-20).
 - Benevolence (Acts 6:1-4)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

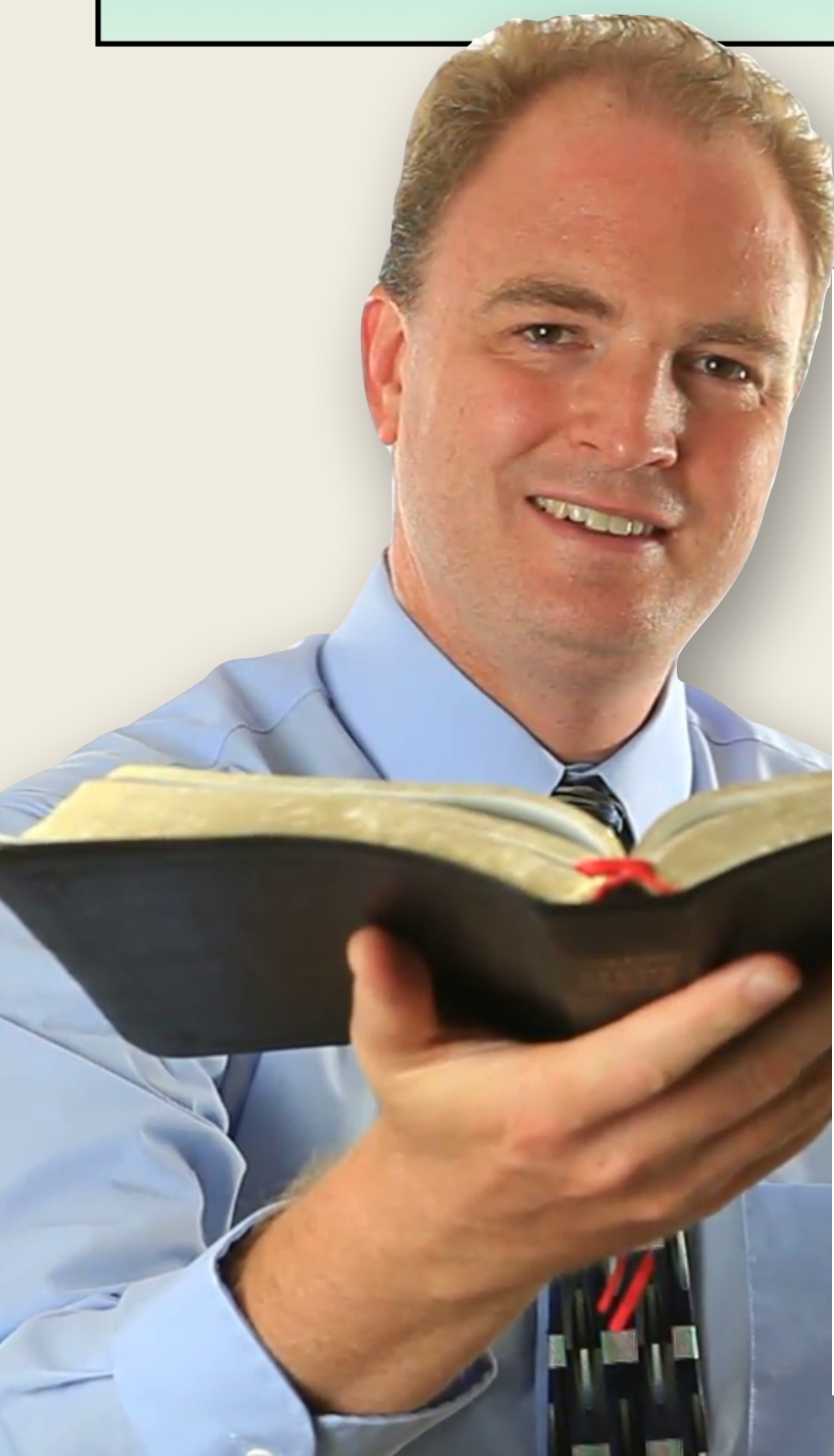
(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ Ephesians 4:1-16

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NKJV)

¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

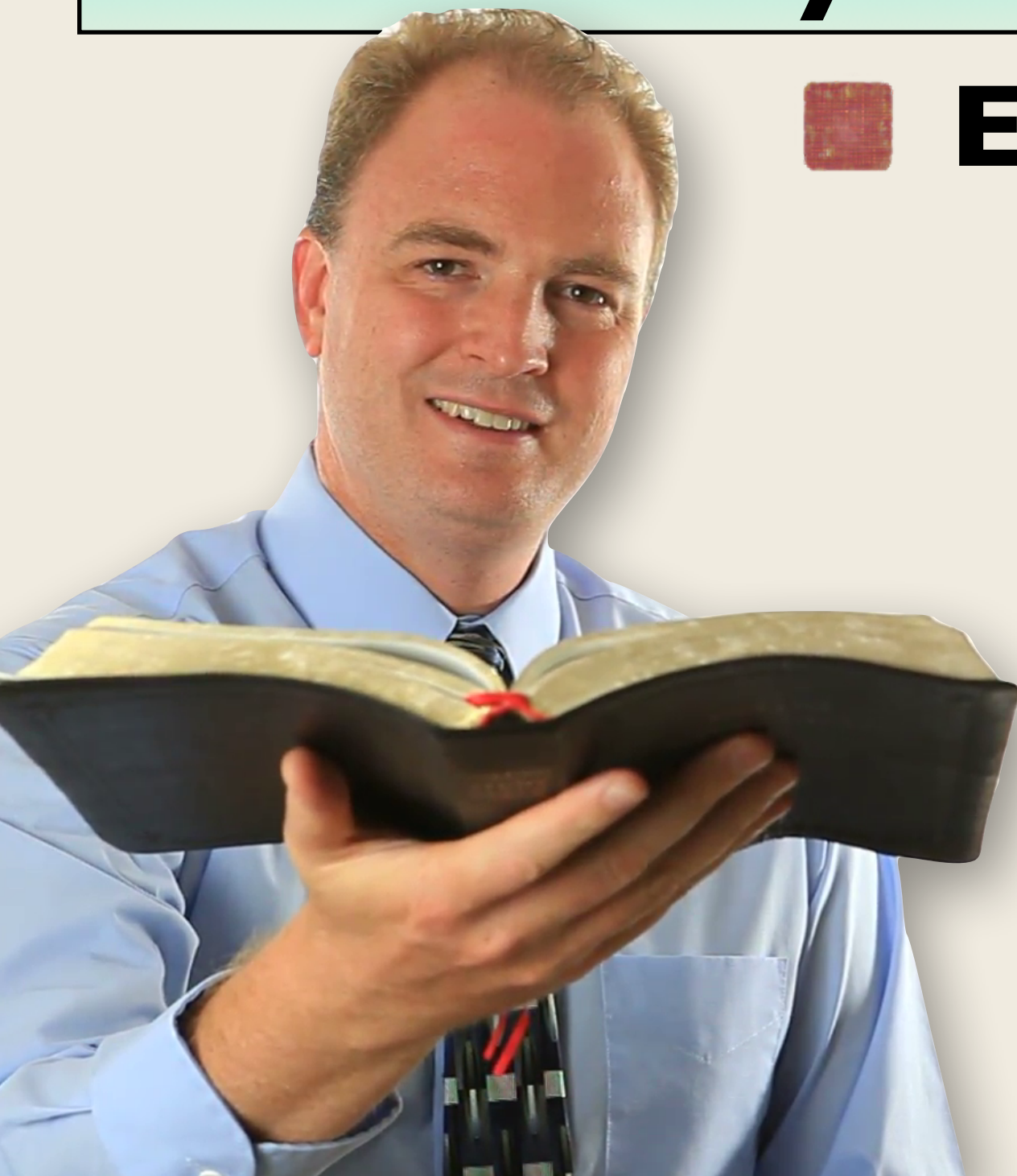


“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ Ephesians 4:1-16



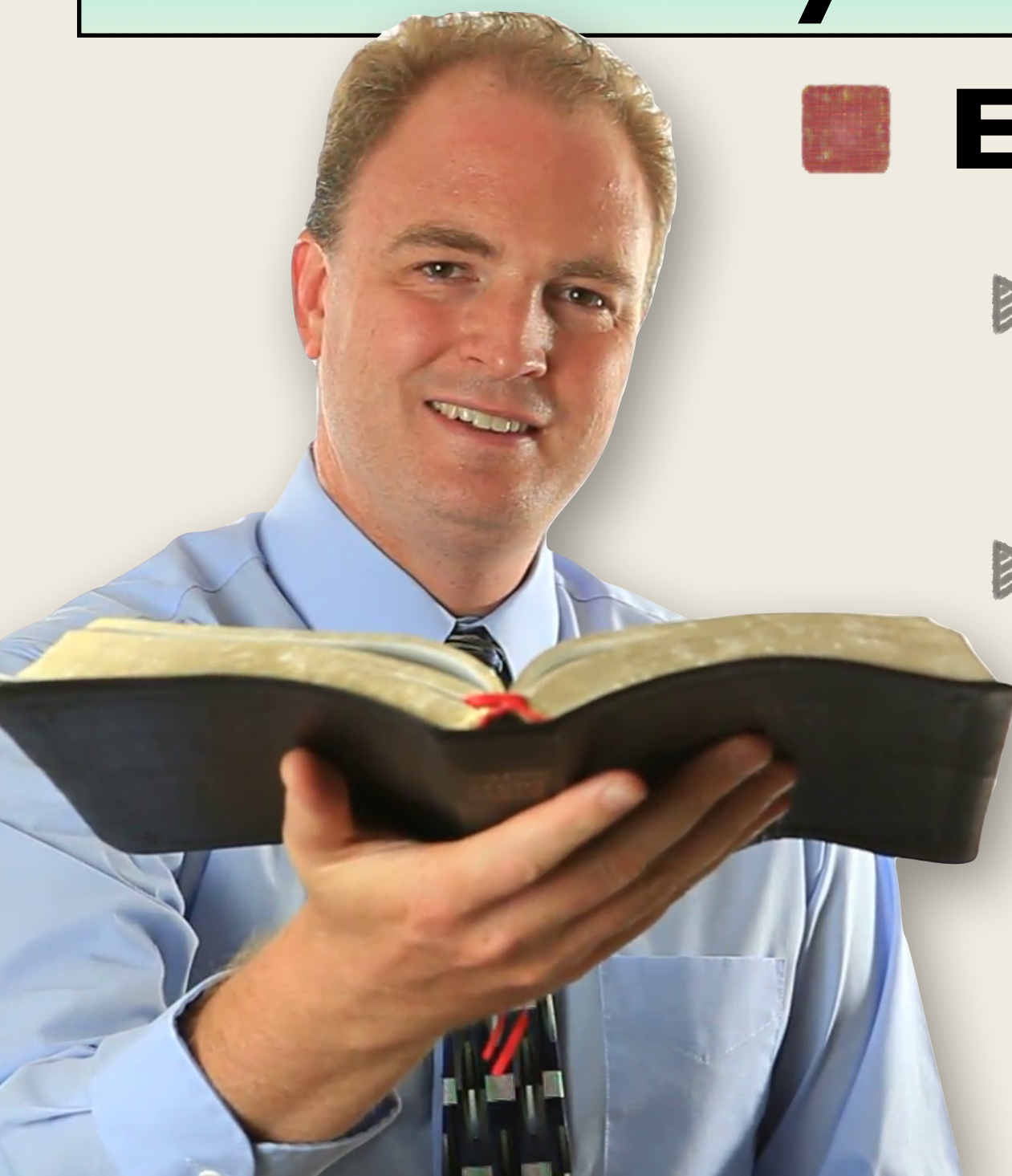
- ▶ Demands diligent pursuit of attitudes promoting unity (1-3)
- ▶ Demands we stand united upon truth (4-6, 15)
- ▶ Demands we grow in truth by the Lord's provisions (7-15)
- ▶ Demands we use our God-given abilities that the body grow (7-16)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ Ephesians 4:1 - 16



- ▶ A local “body of Christ” should be “fitly framed and knit together through that which every member supplies.”
- ▶ Success & growth requires the cooperative efforts of individual Christians “according to the working in due measure of each several part” for the increase of the body “unto the building up of itself in love” (Eph. 4:16-17).

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

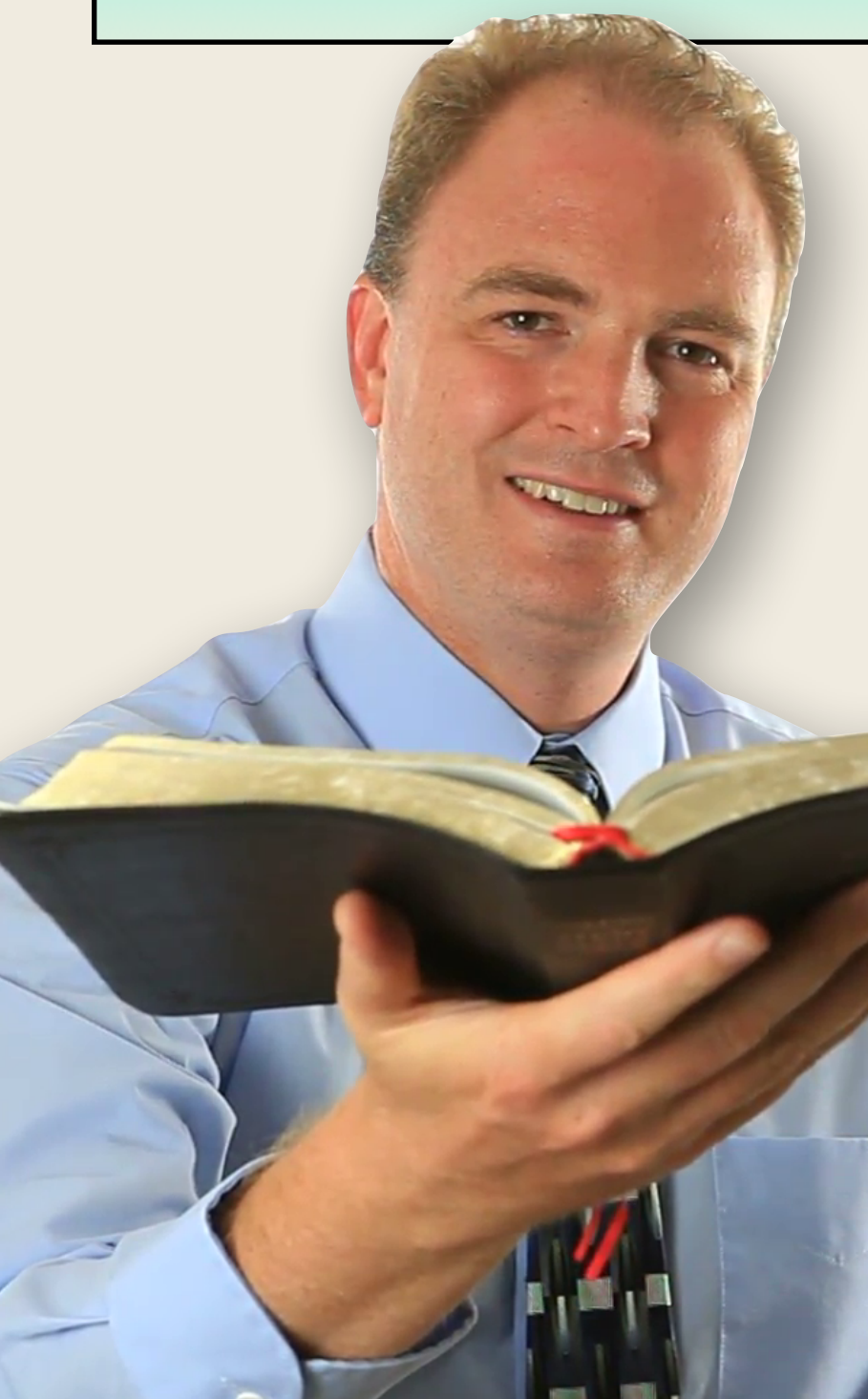
(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ Romans 12:3-16

Romans 12:3–5 (NKJV)

³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. ⁴ For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

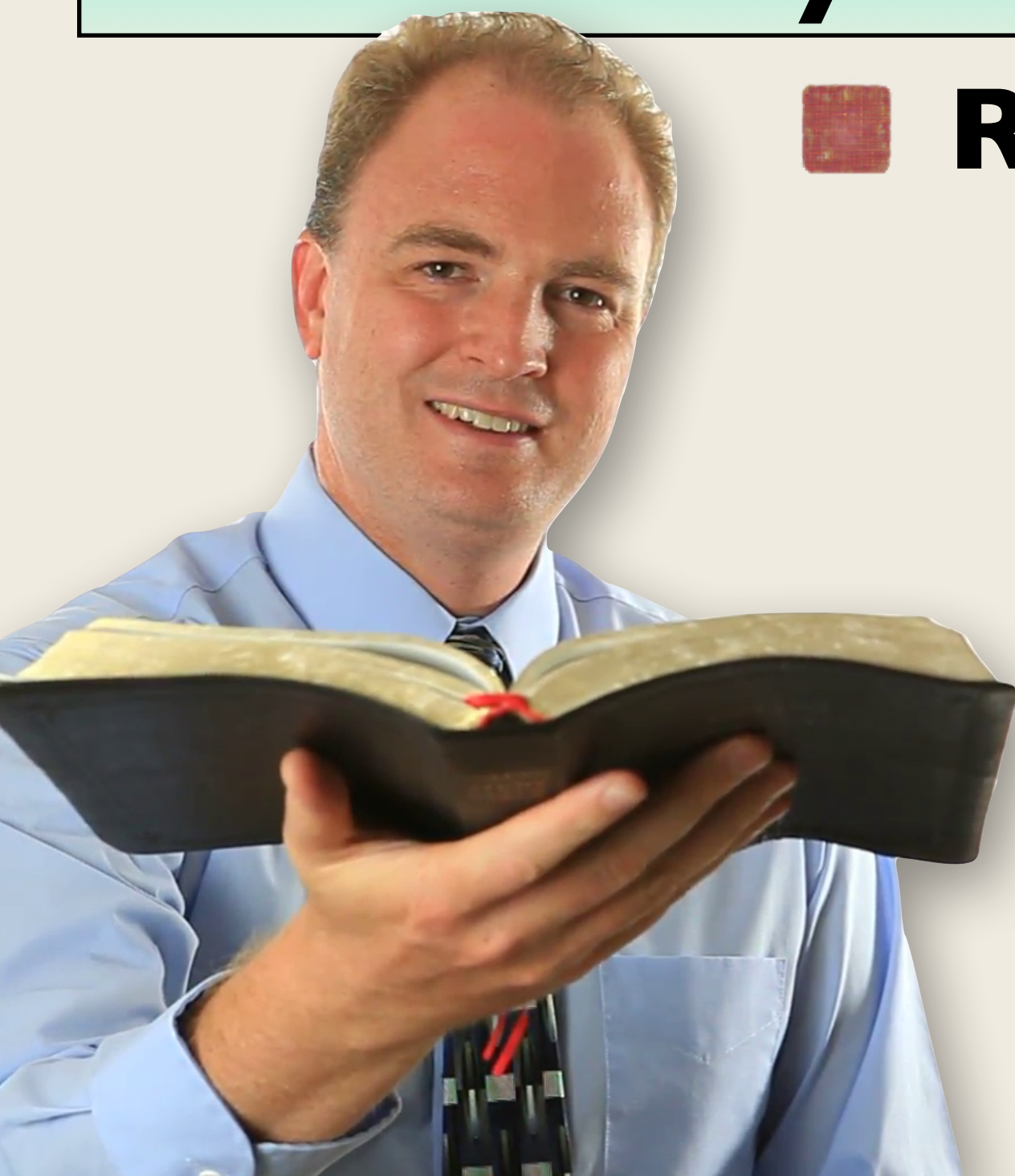


“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ Romans 12:3-16



- ▶ In Participation (6-8)
- ▶ In Concern & Respect For One Another (9,10)
- ▶ In Preferential Association With One Another (10-12)
- ▶ In Helping One Another (13,14)
- ▶ Requires Humility (16)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

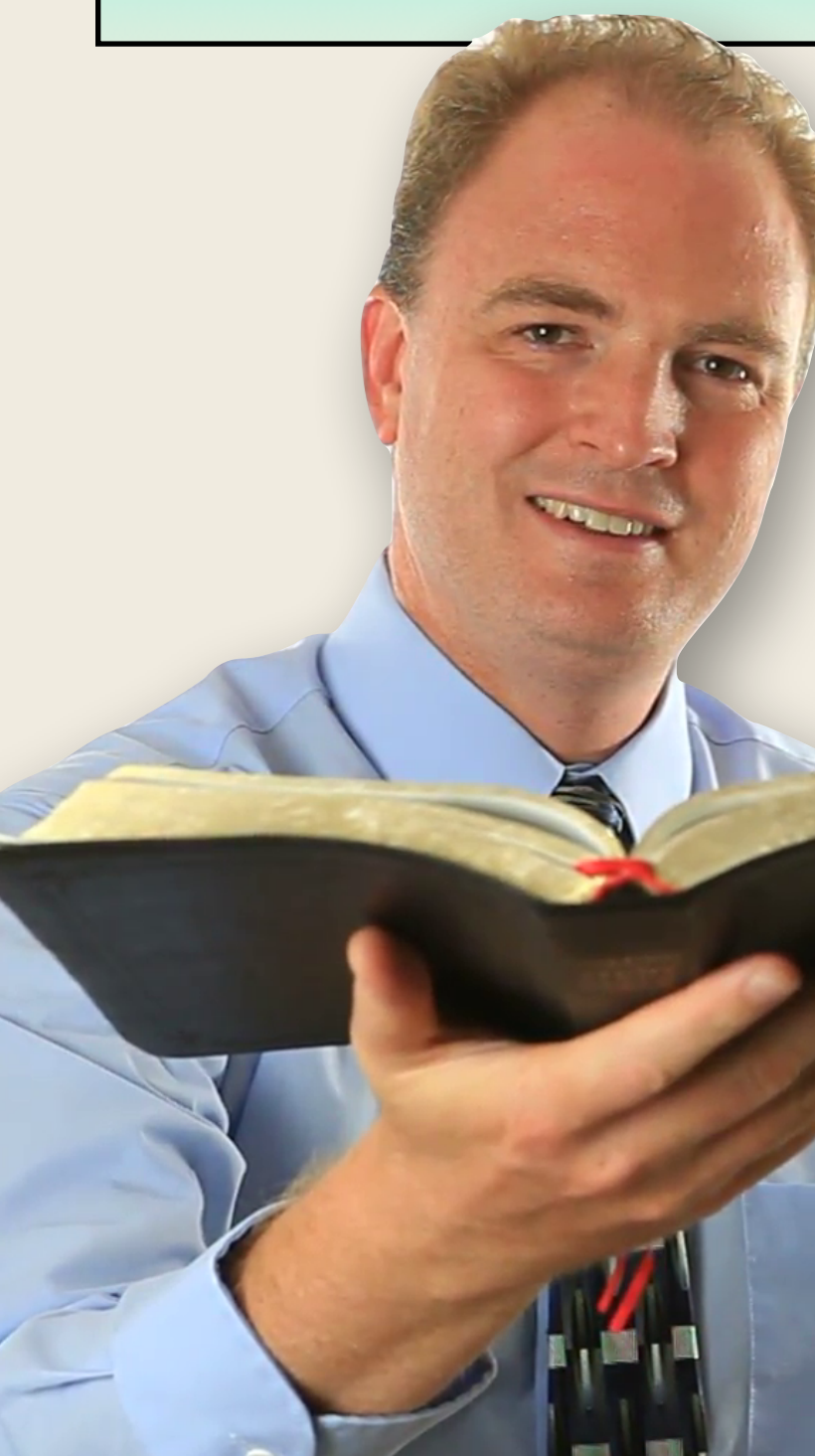
The Body of Christ United



I Corinthians 12:12-27

1 Corinthians 12:12–14 (NKJV)

¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many.




“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

■ 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

- 
- A man with short brown hair, wearing a light blue dress shirt and a dark tie, is smiling and holding an open book with both hands. The book has a red bookmark. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.
- ▶ Emphasizes **unity** – NOT division (12,13,18,20)
 - ▶ Emphasizes being a **participant** – NOT a spectator (14-20)
 - ▶ Emphasizes **equality** – NOT superiority (15-17, 21-24)
 - ▶ Emphasizes **dependence** – NOT independence (14,17, 21-27)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United



I Corinthians 12:12-27

1 Corinthians 1:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you, but *that* you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.



“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

The Body of Christ United

TEAMWORK



Total Commitment or Mere Involvement?

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

WHAT KIND OF MEMBER AM I?



“RELUCTANT MEMBER”

- Mind elsewhere / Attends When Convenient



“OBSERVING MEMBER”

- Focus on performance / What do I Get?



“INVOLVED MEMBER”

- Listens, Prays, Sings, Partakes / Gives & Receives



“DEVOTED MEMBER”

- Can be depended on to help, support, serve / Committed

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

WHAT KIND OF MEMBER AM I?

Always
finding
something
wrong ...



Critic

RESPONDS
because they
feel like they
HAVE TO



Compelled

RESPONDS
because they
want to get
along



Compliant

Willing to
work with
others / good
helpers



Cooperative

Seeks
opportunities
to serve /
dependable



Committed

DEPENDS ON MY PRIORITIES AND VALUES

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

- ▶ Is the body of Christ divided? (1 Cor. 1:10-13; 12:12-14; Eph. 4:4)
- ▶ Who would want their physical “body” to look like denominations portray the body of Christ? (Eph. 4:4; 5:22-25)
- ▶ Who would want their physical “body” to be as dysfunctional as many local churches are? (1 Cor. 1:11,12; 3:1-4; 5; 6:1-8; 12:15-27)
- ▶ What are the consequences of division among those professing to be christians? (John 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 3:1; ff)

“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

WHAT IF ...

- ▶ If EVERY member STOOD in their place ...
- ▶ If EVERY member LOVED like JESUS ...
- ▶ If EVERY member SERVED like Jesus ...
- ▶ If EVERY member Was Like ME? (You) ?



“The Church of Christ - His Body”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:4)

- ▶ Are you IN the BODY of CHRIST?
- ▶ Are you SERVING in the BODY of CHRIST?
- ▶ Are you SEEKING the unity in the BODY of CHRIST the scriptures emphasize?



Charts by Don McClain / Preached May 3, 2020 AM

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