

# Paul's world Life in Corinth – One body, many parts

Background information to support the resources on 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

## Life today

What do you have to do to pick up a drink, or to catch a ball? Even simple movements like these need our bones, muscles and nerves to work together. Each of these parts contains thousands of cells – the tiny building blocks that make up our bodies.



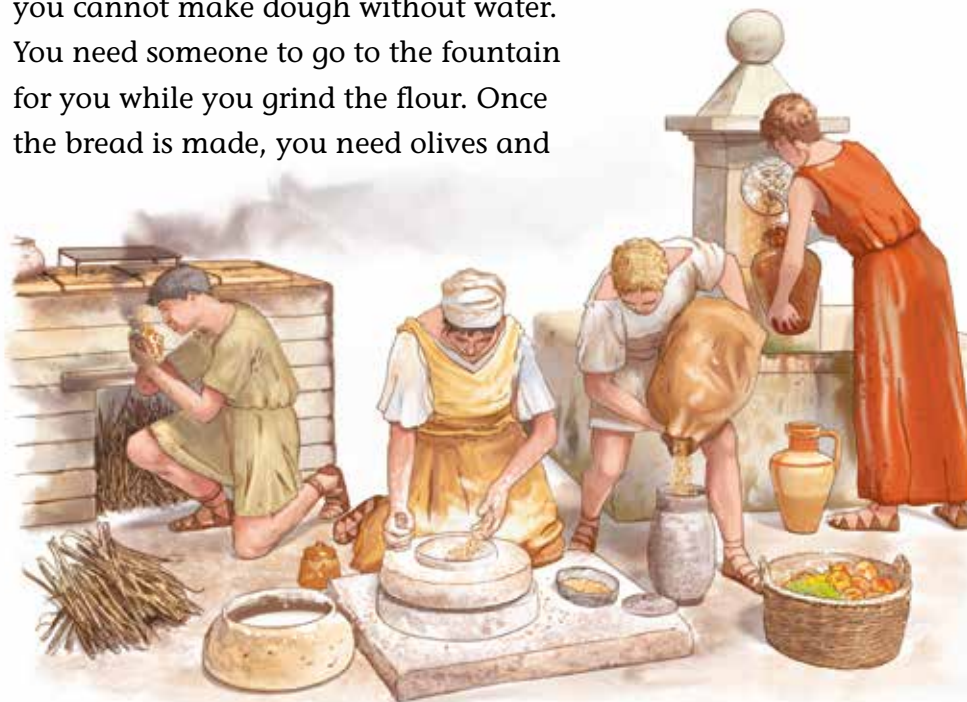
## Did you know?

There was a special sporting event in Corinth every two years called the Isthmian Games. There were chariot races, wrestling and boxing, as well as music and poetry. The Games had a President who paid all the expenses and held a large feast for all the VIP visitors. Many people had to work together to make these games happen.

## Imagine

You are part of a household in Corinth and you are going to prepare a feast for many guests. First, you need to roast barley seeds to make bread. You cannot do this without a fire, so you need someone to fetch the wood or charcoal so that you can light it. When the fire's burning and the barley is roasting in an iron pot, you are nearly ready to make the dough. Now you remember that you cannot make dough without water. You need someone to go to the fountain for you while you grind the flour. Once the bread is made, you need olives and

figs. Someone needs to buy them in the market. You also need wine, cheese and honey, chestnuts and pomegranates. When these things are prepared, you remember that someone needs to go to the harbour and bring some fresh fish for the guests to eat. A feast is a wonderful thing, but it needs many people working together to prepare it!



## Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

A nugget to explore with children: Chapter 12, verse 27

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*