



1CORINTHIANS 12
spiritual gifts
& the body

Attendee Workbook

Christian Fellowship
community groups

Acts 2:44

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 1: A Healthy Body



Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 12:20 But now [are they] many members, yet but one body.

Engage

What is the most athletic feat you have ever witnessed? How did it make you feel watching it?

Have you ever injured a part of your body that would normally be considered a minor part of your body and it now felt like a major part of your body? What was it and how did it impact your life?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 1: A Healthy Body



Develop

This week we will be looking at what makes a healthy church. When Paul wrote about this, he likened the church to a body with different functions for each to fulfill to have a healthy body. It is a good image of ultimate cooperation. Every one of us can appreciate how are bodies are supposed to function and what it feels like when our bodies aren't healthy. What if we had to listen through our eyes or hear through our hands?

In many ways a church body could be compared to a team. In football there are a lot of players on a team and each of them are important. There are positions who get more attention like Quarterback, but if a team is going to be successful, everyone has to do their job to the best of their ability. Imagine a team that plays players in the wrong position, or players who get upset because they don't get to play a position they aren't suited for. A winning team is one where all the players buy into a system, everyone works together and everyone executes their job to the absolute best of their ability. It is the same in a church body. We will go into more depth as we get into this week's study. Let us begin with Paul's words to the church in Corinth.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all [things] he might have the preeminence.

Notes: _____

This is an important idea as we move forward in this series, talking about spiritual gifts. It is only by getting this right we can see a healthy body come about.

A _____ body is one that allows Christ to _____ all its functions.

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Discussion Question:

How does the relationship of the head and the body impact your thinking in your role in the body?

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also [is] Christ. 13. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether [we be] Jews or Gentiles, whether [we be] bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14. For the body is not one member, but many.

Notes

1 Corinthians 12:15-20 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16. And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17. If the whole body [were] an eye, where [were] the hearing? If the whole [were] hearing, where [were] the smelling? 18. But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19. And if they were all one member, where [were] the body? 20. But now [are they] many members, yet but one body.

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Would you rather someone touch you with their foot or their hand? The foot is not a glamorous thing, especially at time of the writing of this letter.



Notes: _____

_____ does not require _____.

You are set in the body as it pleased God. Don't discount who God has made you to be. You have a purpose that he wants you to fulfill. On the flip side of that, we shouldn't discount other people's place in the body because it isn't like us, or what we deem as important.

Notes: _____

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Discussion Question:

What limitations do you think there would be if everyone had the same gift or what problems could you see arising from trying to get people to function outside of what God called them to be?

Paul talks some more about this concept over the next few verse, but I want to skip down to verse 25.

1 Corinthians 12:25-26 That there should be no schism in the body; but [that] the members should have the same care one for another. 26. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

Notes: _____

There is not _____ in a _____ body.

That is a contrary idea to the society we live in. Our society tells us that it's all about us. It says you do your thing over there and I'll do my thing over here and it's all alright. The thing about a body though is it is connected. A stubbed toe makes you walk funny. A broken writing hand slows down your ability to communicate in a written matter considerably.

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Week 1: A Healthy Body

At the same time when we taste a food we enjoy it brings pleasure to the whole body, when we exercise our bodies it releases endorphins that cause the whole body pleasure.

It is the same thing spiritually. If you are suffering in your walk with God the body suffers with you and if you are exercising your spiritual gift in brings pleasure to the whole body. We all matter, we are all important, we are all set in the body as it please God.

Discussion Question:

When it says that God has placed us in the body, what does that mean to you and how does that effect your view in your part of that body?

Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Jesus told his disciples that people would know they were his disciples by their love for each other. (John 13:35)

How we treat each other matters. We can't be healthy and be beating up another part of our body, neglecting it, or abusing it.

Notes: _____

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A _____ body is a body in which all the gifts of the spirit are _____.

I want to leave you with this as I get ready to turn it over to your hosts. God has placed members in the body as it has pleased him and he has placed each part in the body. That means that there should not be a lack of a spiritual gift in the body. We have all the parts, the foot, the hand, the eyes, the ears, the smelling, etc. So, if one of them isn't functioning, it isn't because God didn't place it in the body, it is because we have an unhealthy body. We aren't missing a foot, it just isn't functioning properly. We aren't missing an eye, it's just too busy trying to be an ear. As we go into the gifts in the series. It is my prayer that you will seek God for what your place in the body is, meaning what your gift is and that you will seek it with reckless abandon. That as you do, you will find peace in the role God has given you and that you would function in the body of Christ properly to see it move and reach the world with the Gospel message.

Discussion Question:

Based on tonight's study, what does a healthy body look like to you? How do you see your role in that body?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body



Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts

Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

Engage

What activity or lack of activity do you find most enjoyable? Is it reading a book, taking a nap, playing a sport, etc. What do you like to spend your free time doing the most and why?

What is the most impactful gift you have ever received? Why do you feel that way?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body



Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts

Develop

Last week we talked a lot about the body of Christ. This week we are going to spend some time examining what the Bible means when it talks about spiritual gifts. Not only will we examine the meaning, but we will look at what our mindset should be towards the gifts. Our core text this evening will be the first three chapters of 2 Corinthians 12.

Our outline tonight is:

1. Find meaning in the term “Spiritual Gift”
2. Discuss the importance of being led by the Holy Spirit.
3. Discuss how Jesus as a man was lead by the Holy Spirit.
4. Examine Jesus working within the spiritual gifts.
5. Get ready for the next two weeks!

Part 1: Find meaning in the term “Spiritual Gift”

The Greek word for gifts here is charisma:

charisma; from 5483; a gift of grace, a free gift:—favor(1), free gift(3), gift(5), gifts(7), spiritual gift(1).¹

The spiritual gifts are God’s grace coming to a visible effect in _____ or _____.

1 Corinthians 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

¹ Thomas, R. L. (1998). New American Standard Hebrew–Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts



Notes: _____

The nine _____ of the Spirit can also be referred to as _____ of the Spirit.

Paul writes of the spiritual gifts in chapter 12 and love in chapter 13 as being in close relation to one another. The grace gifts are intended to be operated out of love. Paul says love is superior to any spiritual gift. In verse 31, he calls love a “more excellent way”.

Here’s a good test to see if you’re operating in the gifts the way God intends. Gifts should produce gratitude, not pride. We’ve mentioned this concept previously in another series and it’s worth rehearsing again.

Discussion Questions:

If you received a Christmas present you could never have bought on your own from someone who loves you more than anyone ever could, how would you feel?

Explain in your own words the difference between receiving payment and receiving a gift. How are they the same? How are they different?

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Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts



Part 2: We should be knowledgeable of the Holy Spirit in our lives

As we look at verse one in our chapter, Paul starts by addressing what some might call a “high class” problem.

1Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual [gifts], brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

Notes: _____

God doesn't want us to be _____ in the _____ of His Holy Spirit.

Let's continue on to verses two and three:

1 Corinthians 12:2-3 Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. ³ Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

Notes: _____

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Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts

We should be thankful for the spiritual _____, but far more thankful for the spiritual _____ that Jesus is Lord.



Here are some related scriptures:

1 John 4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

1 John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Part 3: Jesus the Man

Notes: _____

John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Philemon 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Galatians 4:4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,²

² The Holy Bible: King James Version. 2009 (Electronic Edition of the 1900 Authorized Version.) (Ga 4:4). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

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Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts

That Jesus commonly referred to himself as the Son of Man is a comforting thought.

Notes: _____

If Jesus did what he did because He was the Son of _____ operating in the power of the Holy Spirit, then _____ can do it too.

Discussion Question:

How does it make you feel to know you are living in the time of these “greater works” mentioned in John 14:12.

Part 4: Jesus operates in the gifts

Over the next two weeks we are going to examine 9 spiritual gifts. It’s important to realize that Jesus, the Son of Man, operated in all of these gifts during his ministry. The only two gifts that Jesus did not operate in was tongues and interpretation of tongues. These two gifts were not give until after Jesus had ascended.

The word of wisdom:

In Luke Luke 21:20–21, Jesus supernaturally predicted that Jerusalem would be surrounded on all sides by armies and when that time came, Christians should flee Jerusalem. In 70AD, Titus and the Roman army sacked Jerusalem, killing hundreds of thousands of Jews. When offered the traditional wreath of victory, Titus refuses, saying he had merely served as an instrument of God’s wrath.

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The word of knowledge:

Jesus spoke a word of knowledge to the woman at the well. He told her a fact about her husband and personal life that he could not have known except by divine revelation. It was these words of knowledge that compelled the woman to tell all the villagers about Jesus.

John 4:29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

The discerning of Spirits

Jesus discerned the good spirit of Nathaniel without ever having met him.

John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! (no guile means without deceit)

Faith

Jesus spoke to a fig tree that is should not bear fruit:

Matthew 21:19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.

The working of miracles

Jesus used water and made it into wine:

John 2:7-8 Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare [it].

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The gifts of healing

Jesus anointed the eyes of a blind man with clay to give him sight.

John 9:11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine **eyes**, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

Prophecy

Jesus often spoke direct messages from the Father intended to edify, comfort and exhort. The sermon on the mount is a great example: (Matthew 5-7)

Examining how Jesus operated in the gifts brings us back to one of our first points. The gifts of the Spirit should never function selfishly. They should always function to edify the body. Even when Jesus cursed the fig tree, it prompted the discussion he had with his disciples about simple faith being able to move mountains. In general, the gifts flowing through you will be a greater blessing to those around you than to yourself.

Discussion Question:

Take some time and think of other things Jesus did while operating within the spiritual gifts. It could be a miracle, healing, prophecy, or any other gift. Now discuss with the group how that act edified somebody besides Jesus.

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Week 2: Introduction to the Grace Gifts



Part 5: Conclusion

The nine grace gifts are weapons in our spiritual warfare. As Christians we need to realize that the same Spirit that was on Moses and Elijah and in Paul and Peter is with us today. God is the great “I AM”. There is no weakening of his power. There is one Spirit, and that Spirit does not change.

Discussion Question:

In your own words, explain God as the “I AM”. What does this mean in regards to your spiritual walk?

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Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Engage

Who was your first best friend and what do you remember most about them?

If money were no object, what is the first thing you would go out and buy? Why would it be that particular thing?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



Develop

Our outline tonight is:

1. Operations (effects) of the Holy Spirit.
2. Difference between the gifts in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12
3. Introduction to the revelation gifts.
4. The Word of Wisdom
5. The Word of Knowledge
6. The Discerning of Spirits
7. Conclusion

Part 1: Operation (effects) of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

The word operation here could also be called “an effect” or “a working”.

1755. ἐνέργημα **ēnergēma**, *en-erg'-ay-mah*; from 1754; an *effect*.—operation, working.³

Remember, our subject is spiritual gifts. There are various effects, workings or operations of the Holy Spirit, but the same God.

Notes: _____

³ Strong, J. (2009). Vol. 1: A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible (29). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



John 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth (wills, intends), and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

For this reason, I want to admonish us not to get legalistic on definitions. If one person's experience in the Spirit was slightly different than another's, quarreling over which specific gift was manifest is not necessary. Instead, we should be rejoicing together that the Holy Spirit moved. One of the key points we talked about week 1 was unity in the body. The Spiritual gifts thrive in unity. Hence, Satan would love to have us arguing over definitions. So whether a person gets healed through the gift of faith, gifts of healings or working of miracles is not as important as the fact that they got healed!

At the same time, I'd admonish us not to sell ourselves short. Each gift is truly a supernatural manifestation of God. *When it happens, you know.* You'll never confuse the word of knowledge with general biblical knowledge, or prophecy with general encouragement.

1 Corinthians 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to **every man** to profit withal.

Notes: _____

Discussion Question:

The bible describes the Holy Spirit as a river. What does that mean to you? Try to use the words "full" and "dry" in your answer.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body



Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)

Part 2: Difference between the gifts in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12

Before we get started defining the gifts, there is one more important topic to cover. Let's briefly examine how the 9 spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12 differ from the 7 gifts listed in Romans 12. The gifts in Romans 12 are often referred to as "service gifts", or "the functional gifts". These gifts are blessings from the Holy Spirit that give a person the ability to minister in a specific area for an extended amount of time. Some of these gifts are the gifts of helps, administrations, teaching and prophecy. Prophecy is listed in both Romans and 1 Corinthians because that gift can be a manifestation gift or a service gift depending on the length or power of the anointing (we'll talk about prophecy in week 4).

The gift that is listed in both Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 is _____.

Notes: _____

Part 3: Introduction to the Revelation Gifts

There are no classifications of gifts in the Bible. There are multiple ways one could classify gifts, although it is not necessary. For the sake of organization and easier teaching, we will be classifying the gifts into three categories for the sake of this study.

1. The Revelation Gifts
2. The Power Gifts
3. The Inspiration Gifts.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



Discussion Question:

Describe a time you've received a revelation from God. Describe what you were doing before you received it and the effect it had.

Notes: _____

Galatians 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught [it], but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Part 4: The Word of Wisdom

The word of wisdom is the Holy Spirit speaking a specific _____ of God's divine wisdom for a specific _____.

1 Corinthians 2:5-7 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, [even] the **hidden** [wisdom], which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

It is a supernatural revelation of *hidden* things – things we could not otherwise know. Because it is a message of God's divine plan, the word of wisdom can be foretelling of some future event.

This gift was manifest in the Old Testament and the New. In the Old Testament it would primarily manifest itself in the prophets:

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Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)

Manifestations in the Old Testament:

- Noah received the revelation that a flood would come and to prepare an arc.
- This gift was manifest in Joseph through dreams and interpretation of dreams. He was able to reveal to Pharaoh the upcoming famine and tell him how to prepare for it.
- Daniel had visions of empires rising and falling before it ever happened. We see throughout the Old Testament that prophets such as Isaiah and Elijah flowed heavily in this gift.

Manifestations in the New Testament:

- In route to Rome, Paul received a revelation of the upcoming storm that saved the life of all his traveling companions.
- Paul met the prophet Agabus in Caesarea, who had the revelation that Paul would be bound and delivered into the hands of the Gentiles.
- It manifested itself in Peter through a dream about God making unclean things clean. This led to the Jewish acceptance of the first Gentile converts.

Notes: _____

There is a difference between _____ from God and the manifestation of the _____ of wisdom.

There is a difference between spiritual fruit and spiritual gifts. Spiritual fruit can be sought after and grow in the life of a believer by the grace of God. The gifts of the spirit are manifested as God wills (1 Cor 12:7)

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed [them] unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

The Holy Spirit can give us a word of wisdom in a number of ways. It could come through dream, vision, angel or just flow from our mouths.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



Part 5: The Word of Knowledge

The word of knowledge is similar to the word of wisdom in that it is a supernatural revelation that can only come from God. The difference between the word of knowledge and the word of wisdom is that the word of knowledge is strictly factual. We'll define the word of knowledge as:

The Holy Spirit revealing a fact, whether present or past.

The word of knowledge does not involve intellect or learned facts. It is God revealing us *His* knowledge. As with all the other manifestation gifts, God manifests the gift as he chooses when there is a need. When the word of knowledge is manifested, the knowledge revealed by God will never be confused with man's knowledge.

Here are examples of the word of knowledge in the Bible:

1. In Acts 10:19, the Spirit told Peter that three men were seeking him. This was a divine revelation from God. Peter now knew he could trust these men.
2. Cornelius also received a word of knowledge regarding Peter's whereabouts. These two words of knowledge allowed Peter to find Cornelius, minister to him, and see the first gentile converts.

Notes: _____

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)



Notes: _____

A word or knowledge can even be as simple as:

- Revealing a person we need to forgive
- Specifically what song to play during a service
- A word of knowledge can reveal a gift inside someone (gifts can also be stirred up through prophecy, which we will discuss in week 4)

Part 6: The Discerning of Spirits

The discerning of spirits is divine revelation of the spirit that moves a person, whether it is good or bad.

Notes: _____

Examples in the Bible:

Simon the soothsayer saw people receiving the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands by Peter and John. Simon sought to purchase this gift with money. Peter immediately recognized the root issue with Simon, that he was in the bond of iniquity (Acts 8:20-23)

This gift was manifest again in Peter when Ananias and Sapphira sold their property and brought the money to be given to the assembly. While there was nothing wrong with this on the surface, it was made known to Peter by revelation that they were lying to the Holy Spirit. Through Peter, God gave both Ananias and Sapphira a chance to repent. When they did not, God spoke through Peter the judgement (Acts 5).

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body



Week 3: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 1)

The gift is discerning spirits will help to keep a strong and healthy body from the leaders on down. It helps recognize Satan or his demons when they try to invade. It helps recognize God's Spirit and His angels when they bless and inspire the body.

Discussion Question:

What does the word *counterfeit* mean to you? How could this relate to the discerning of spirits?

Part 7: Conclusion

As you discuss and meditate upon the revelation gifts this week, recognize that God wants to speak to us. We don't need to define the gifts for them to become active, nevertheless, when we speak specifically about the gifts to one another our faith will become stirred up. Even something as simple as describing these three gifts has most likely made some of you realize that the revelation gifts are actually manifest in your life right now, or are on the verge of being manifest. We'll talk more about stirring up the gifts in week 5. As you go through this week, look for revelation from God that edifies the body.

Discussion Question:

What are some specific situations where you could see any of these three gifts being useful? How would these gifts bring edification to the body of Christ?

***Assignment** As you close in prayer with one another, be aware of any word the Holy Spirit may be trying to say through you. If you believe it's of God, speak it.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Memory Verse:

Romans 5:5 So we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Engage

If you could live anywhere in the world for any length of time and cost wasn't an issue, where would that be? What would you do while you were there?

What is something that makes you feel appreciated? How could someone best show their appreciation towards you?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Develop

Our outline tonight is:

1. Introduction to the power gifts
2. Faith
3. The Working of Miracles
4. Gifts of Healing
5. Introduction to the Gifts of Inspiration
6. Prophecy
7. Divers Kinds of Tongues
8. The Interpretation of Tongues
9. Conclusion

1 Corinthians 12:9–10 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10. To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

Part 1: Introduction to the Power Gifts

We'll pick up right where we left off last week. The next three gifts we will talk about are:

- Faith
- Gifts of Healing
- The Working of Miracles

We'll classify these gifts as power gifts because they each show God's power in a physical, tangible way.

Part 2: Faith

Every born-again believer has faith. We are saved by grace through faith (Eph 2:8). We learn in the Bible that we are all dealt a measure of faith (Rom 12:3). We exercise faith when we pray for healings and other things. There are scriptures that reference increasing our faith.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Notes: _____

_____, not man, is the source of power in the gift of _____.

Examples in scripture.

- Daniel went into the Lion's Den with a faith. Daniel did not hurt the beasts or attempt to run. God did the work and shut the lion's mouth (Dan 6:22)
- Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace for refusing to commit idolatry. They were bound and the situation was out of their control. They did not run or try to fight, but confidently gave honor to God. God worked a miracle and delivered them. It's important to note that in both these situations, Daniel and the three Hebrew children were calm, confident and peaceful.
- Jesus showed us faith when he commanded the storm to cease. Jesus didn't pray for the Father to please stop the wind or do a rain dance. Jesus spoke it.

Part 3: The Working of Miracles

The Working of Miracles and Faith are similar but different. Let's briefly talk about miracles in general

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Notes: _____

The Greek word for “working” here is *energema*. It is where we get the Greek word “energy”. It is actually the same word used earlier in the chapter for “operations” that we studied last week. If you recall, it means an effect or operation.

The Greek word for miracle is *dynamis* (dü'-nä-mēs). It means force, mighty work or miraculous power. This is actually where we get our word for dynamite. When the woman with an issue of blood touched the hem of Jesus' garment, it says that “*dynamis*” went out from Him. Jesus actually felt miraculous power leaving his body.

We see then that the working of miracles is God using us to operate in his miraculous power. Unlike the gift of faith, God is actually using us to work the miracle as he provides the *dynamis*.

The gift of faith is _____ doing all the work. The working of miracles is God empowering _____ to do the work.

Examples in the Bible

- Elijah worked many miracles. One example is when he took his garment and struck the waters with it, so that they parted and he walked on dry ground (2 Kings 2:8).
- Samson worked miracles when he killed a lion with just his bare hands, or when he pushed down the pillars and slew many men.
- Jesus fed thousands from a few fishes and bread loaves.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



It's important to note that in all these examples the people involved were using physical objects and involved with the process. This is the primary difference between the gift of faith and the working of miracles. Had the waters simply parted before Elijah, it would have been the gift of faith. Since he struck the waters with this garment, it can be classified as a working of a miracle.

Part 4: The Gifts of Healing

The gifts of healing is a strong anointing to heal the sick. It is the only gift of the nine that appears in the plural form

Mark 16:17–18 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

While there is a special anointing and various ways the Holy Spirit will operate in the gifts of healing, I believe every believer is equipped to see the sick healed.

Let's start out by examining a fact that may startle some:

Jesus never prayed for the sick.

Notes: _____

Matthew 8:2–3 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth [his] hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Note what Jesus did, he touched him and commanded, “Be thou clean”. There are at least twelve other instances in the Bible where Jesus touched someone for healing.

People would also touch Jesus and get healed. We read of instances where crowds of people would gather around Jesus to touch him because power was going out of him. Here is just one instance:

Luke 6:18–19 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed [them] all.

And yes, the word for virtue here is “dynamis”, the word we learned last chapter meaning miraculous power.

We also read of Jesus sometimes using physical material to work healings. He used spit, clay and a pool of water to heal a man of blindness:

John 9:6–7 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, 7. And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

There are also examples of Jesus healing just by saying a word. It’s interesting to note that when Jesus healed just by speaking it was usually because of the great faith of the person asking Him.

Luke 7:6–10 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof: 7. Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. 8. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth [it]. 9. When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. 10. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Note the words of the centurion. He declares that Jesus just needs to speak the word and his servant will be healed.

Most of Jesus' healings were instantaneous, but not always. We see a different process of healing here:

Mark 8:23–25 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24. And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. 25. After that he put [his] hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

The blind man's vision was restored, but only to about 50%. Note what Jesus does. He doesn't just heal him and move on. He assesses the situation by interviewing the person being healed. When Jesus realizes the healing is not complete, he continues until the desired results are achieved.

Notes: _____

Another important reason to assess our subject is to **seek out the root cause of the issue**. I believe this is one of the reasons the Bible tells us to “lay hands on no man suddenly” (1 Tim 5:22). Running around laying hands on everyone who is sick and saying some generic prayer is not what Jesus did and it is not what the apostles did.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



One important thing to assess when healing the sick is if we are dealing with a natural sickness or a demonic spirit.

Notes: _____

Always try to find the root cause of the illness. **If may end up not even being physical, but emotional or spiritual.**

_____ is an important part of the _____ ministry.

Notes: _____

Discussion Question:

Do the specific words we speak when we pray for the sick or possessed show our faith? Explain.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Jesus healed the sick and ministered to the poor out of compassion. I believe Jesus wants us to move with this same compassion. There is a difference between compassion and sympathy. When we have a Godly compassion it should stir us to action.

Godly compassion leads to _____, _____ lead to pity.

If a nurse saw an injured person who needed their wound cleaned and bandaged, she could do one of two things.

- She could sit there and feel sympathy for him and tell him how much she cares and feels sorry for him,
- or she could move with compassion and dress his wound. As Christians, we need to make sure we realize that we have the power to heal wounds and move with compassion.

Before we move on, let's briefly list some manifestations of the gifts of healing in the New Testament church:

- Peter and John commanded a lame man to walk as they pulled him onto his feet.
- Peter meets Aeneas, a man who had been in bed for 8 years. Peter spoke to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, make up thy bed." He rose immediately.
- A handkerchief from Paul would be taken from his body and brought to the sick. The diseases and evil spirits would depart from them (Acts 19:12)

Notes: _____

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Discussion Question:

From your own experience, describe some of the power gift you've witnessed or been a part of.

Part 5: Introduction to the Gifts of Inspiration

What we will refer to as the inspirational gifts are:

- Prophecy
- Diverse kinds of tongues
- The Interpretation of tongues

Notes: _____

Part 6: Prophecy

Prophecy is a divinely inspired word from God that _____, _____ and _____.

1 Corinthians 14:3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men [to] edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

Prophecy is a manifestation of the Spirit of God, not intellect. Although faith, intellect and will can be involved, the Holy Spirit gives the utterance. Prophecy edifies the church and builds up believers (1 Cor 14:4). This is probably why Paul says we should all desire this gift (1 Cor 14:1)

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



The gift of prophecy is different than the gift of the office of a prophet. The church is founded upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets (Eph 2:20). A prophet is one of the five-fold gifts listed in Ephesians 4.

Notes: _____

The _____ of prophecy is different than the office of a _____.

Prophecy is not mere preaching. Preaching can be inspired and anointed, but prophecy is always supernatural.

Again, we don't need to get overly technical on definitions. But at the same time, we should remember that the 9 gifts are all supernatural manifestations of God's Spirit. Can prophecy come forth during preaching? Absolutely. But the word used for prophecy and the word used for preaching each mean something different.

To preach is to herald, proclaim openly, or publish something that has been done.

To prophesy in this sense is to utter divine revelation or speak under the Holy Spirit's inspiration.

Both preaching and prophesying are anointed, but the anointing is different (different operations of the same Spirit).

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth when the spiritual gifts were getting out of control. He told them to "prophecy one by one" – basically take turns.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



1 Corinthians 14:29–33 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 30. If [any thing] be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 31. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. 32. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33. For God is not [the author] of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

Notes: _____

1 Thessalonians 5:19–20 Quench not the Spirit. 20. **Despise not prophesyings.**

Paul writes to the church in Thessaloniki and admonishes them not to despise this gift. Some churches may fear the gift. Some church leaders may fear the gift because they may feel it is uncontrollable. But we see very clearly in scripture that the gift can be controlled, and when done in decency and order, is a huge blessing to the body.

Discussion Questions:

Why do you think Paul places such a high level of importance on the gift of prophecy?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Do you need to wait for the gift of prophecy in order to edify, comfort or exhort a brother or sister? What are some ways to do this without the gift?

Part 7: Diverse Kinds of Tongues

The gift of diverse (or various) kinds of tongues is the Holy Spirit speaking a divine utterance through the mouth of a believer that is not his natural tongue. It is a sign to unbelievers.

1 Corinthians 14:22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying [serveth] not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

Tongues is not a _____ language. It is a _____ language.

Paul talks about praying in the spirit vs praying from understanding when speaking of tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:14 For if I pray in an [unknown] tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

There is a private kind of tongues that is a personal prayer language.

1 Corinthians 14:4 He that speaketh in an [unknown] tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

Without getting into too much detail, Paul tells the church to avoid public proclamations in tongues unless there is an interpreter.

1 Corinthians 14:27-28 If any man speak in an [unknown] tongue, [let it be] by two, or at the most [by] three, and [that] by course; and let one interpret. 28. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



Paul is not saying that one cannot pray or worship in tongues while in the church, but he is saying it must be to one's self and not directed at others – as that would serve no purpose. However, if there is an interpreter, then both the person speaking the tongue and the person interpreting may address the church. This interpretation will edify the church

1 Corinthians 14:12–13 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual [gifts], seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. 13. Wherefore let him that speaketh in an [unknown] tongue pray that he may interpret.

Notes: _____

Part 8: The Interpretation of Tongues

The interpretation of tongues is the Holy Spirit allowing a believer to understand and interpret a spiritual language, whether her own or somebody else's.

This is a great gift to seek for because it allows the gift of diverse tongues to edify multiple people.

1 Corinthians 14:5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater [is] he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 4: The Gifts of the Spirit (Part 2)



All the gifts of inspiration – prophecy, diverse kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues – are for the edification of the believer and the church.

Discussion Questions:

From your own experience, describe some of the gifts of inspiration you've witnessed or been a part of.

Part 8: Conclusion

I know we've covered a lot today, and I thank you for your patience. I look forward to next week when we conclude this series. But even more than that, I look forward to these gifts becoming increasingly active in your community groups as you grow together in unity and love.

***Assignment:** Speak a word of comfort and edification to someone during prayer tonight. Spend some time tarrying and waiting on the Holy Spirit to give God a chance to say anything He may want to say.

Pt2: Assess those who are sick among you and pray the prayer of faith, taking authority over any infirmity.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

Engage

What is your favorite time of year? Why?

What is your favorite comfort food?

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



Develop

Notes: _____

The gifts in chapter 12 work together in perfect harmony of the love that is talked about in chapter 13. These gifts in us are the expression of Gods love to us and through us. Listen to how Paul mentored Timothy on the gifts in his life.

2 Timothy 1:6-7 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 7. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

The word here for stir up is the Greek word anazopureo and it refers to a stirring of the fire, to keep a flame full. A fire left to itself will go low and eventually burn out. It is for us, as Paul admonished Timothy here, to stir up the gifts of God in our life.

Notes: _____

The _____ are a tangible _____ of the love of God.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



1 Timothy 4:14-16 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. 15. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. 16. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

Notes: _____

Acts 5:12-16 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. 13. And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. 14. And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) 15. Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid [them] on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. 16. There came also a multitude [out] of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

Notes: _____

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



Many signs and wonders happened at the hands of the apostles, but notice it says they were all with one accord. This idea of being in one accord is awesome. It conveys a like passion, unity and is almost musical. It convey this idea of several notes struck all in unity, working together to create a beautiful work. When the gifts are used in the body of Christ in unity, in one accord that is exactly what it is like. We all play our part, our note and the sound rings like a beautiful piece of music in the ears of God. That unity of spirit, in subjection to the Spirit of God, sees people come to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A healthy body looks like. When doctrine, exhortation and the gifts all work together, it profits the body.

The gifts, in _____ and love _____ the name of Jesus.

In fact, when we look at 1 Corinthians 12 and 13, we can sum up the foundation of the gifts in two word: Unity and Love. Regardless of what gift we are seeking or what gift is being manifest in our lives, if the gift doesn't manifest unity and love, we are off the mark.

It's better to have unity and love with _____ gifts, then to have _____ the gifts and no unity or love.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



Stirring up the gifts

1. Teach and preach the Gospel.

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Jesus didn't separate the miracles from the gospel message. Without the gospel message, the gifts would be meaningless because they'd point to us. When we are sharing and living the gospel, the gifts should point to the head of the body, Jesus.

2. Claim the promise

Acts 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Are the promises of the Holy Spirit for you? Have you claimed them yet? Have you said to yourself and God, "I receive this promise." ?

3. Cling to those who believe in the gifts and are operating in the Spirit. Don't be unequally yoked with those who do not.

Mark 6:5-6 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed [them]. 6. And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

Notes: _____

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



4. Earnestly desire them

1 Corinthians 12:31 says to ...covet earnestly the best gifts... The Greek behind covet earnestly means to burn with zeal if we are talking about something good. It means to be moved with jealousy or envy if we are talking about something in the negative. This is a very strong term. God wants us to seek after these gifts and consecrate ourselves in order to receive them. When you covet something, it's in your thoughts all the time. You begin to see things you would not otherwise have seen because you are looking for it. You begin to see ways and opportunities for that thing you covet to become a reality.

5. Prophecy and laying on of hands

1 Tim 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

We gather from this passage that a prophetic word was spoken over Timothy that revealed a spiritual gift. When you pray one on one, in groups, or with the presbytery (presbytery are the ordained elders in an assembly), seek for God to confirm through prophecy the gifts inside of you. If this sounds foreign to you, start getting used to it. This has actually just happened a few times in our ministry over the past month and will happen more.

Are you moving in a gift? Pray with someone desiring that gift and bless them with the laying on of hands. Pray that the anointing that is on you will pass to them. Freely you have received, freely give.

Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



6. And finally... Get out on the battlefield. Take Risks

In the parable of the pounds, the master gave his 10 servants 10 pounds. The master went away to receive the kingdom. When he returned, we read this:

Luke 19:15 And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

The master expected his servants to trade the money for profit; those who did were blessed by the master. Those who did not trade the money were told this:

Luke 19:23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?

Here is the reason for referencing the parable of the pounds. The only way for the servants to increase what their master had given them was to take risks with the money. Anyone who trades money knows that there is some risk involved. Are you ready to take risks with your gifts? Will you lay hands on a stranger and expect a healing? Will you pray with a stranger and wait for a word from God? The just shall live by faith.

God's currency never _____. We just need to put it in the _____.

Do you remember why the wicked servant only returned one pound to the master? He was afraid. For those of us who are sometimes afraid to take risks for God, let's claim this scripture right now:

1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Let's say that one more time to the Lord: **Perfect love casteth out fear**

1 Corinthians 12: Spiritual Gifts and the body

Week 5: Stirring up the Gifts



If you receive that scripture right now, just say out loud, “I receive that promise in Jesus’ Name”.

It’s with love and unity in mind that we will end this series. We are ending a little early tonight because I’d like your group to spend some time praying for one another and seeking the Holy Spirit’s leading.

Here are three things I’d like for you to implement in your prayer time tonight:

1. **Forgive.** If there is anything that would hinder unity or love between any members of your group, forgive one another face to face and bring it to God before the prayer session starts. It doesn’t mean everything is completely resolved, but it does mean that you each acknowledge that in spite of your differences you love one another as Christ loved the church, and that there is no bitterness in you hearts.
2. **As you pray, speak the promises of scripture over someone.** Find a scripture that edifies and pray the promises of that scripture. The person receiving the promise will affirm, “I receive this promise, in Jesus’ Name.”.
3. **Wait for the Holy Spirit’s manifestation.** Toward the end of your prayer session, just spend some quiet time and listen for the Holy Spirit. When He give you a word or a thought, speak it over the group or individual if appropriate.

This will also be a good evaluation of your comfort level as a group. We have been doing community groups for a while now. Please take the following not as a rebuke but as a loving prod, if any of the above 3 steps still seem uncomfortable to you, your group needs to start spending more time doing it.

