

## The Gifts of the Spirit

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

**Main idea:** The Holy Spirit has given diverse gifts to believers in the church for the purpose of glorifying God, building up the body of Christ and sharing the gospel with a lost world.

**Key Verses:** “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.” (12:4-6 ESV)

### Key Principles:

- In a society filled with pagan influences, it is easy for people to be led astray by errant manifestations of the spiritual gifts that God gives to His children.
- Pagan experiences are led by manmade idols while spiritual gifts are directed by the same Holy Spirit that provides the gifts in the first place.
- The gifts of the Spirit never cause the believer to do something or say something that is contrary to the teaching or commission of Jesus.
- The gifts of the Spirit are manifold and each is important in the worship of God and the ministry of the church.
- There are different kinds of gifts, different kinds of service and different kinds of working, but they all serve the same ultimate purpose.
- We do not receive spiritual gifts according to merit or ability, but as God sees fit according to His grace.

### Discussion:

1. Why do you think Paul goes to such lengths to establish the proper attitudes toward every gift of the Spirit?
2. Why do you think people tend to exalt some gifts over others? Have you ever witnessed this in church? How so?
3. Why do you think people have different gifts of the Spirit instead of the same gifts? Is this a good thing? Why?
4. How does the “body” metaphor fit into Paul’s teachings about spiritual gifts? Is he emphasizing diversity or unity?
5. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Have you ever taken a spiritual gift inventory? Did you find it to be helpful or accurate?

### Prayer:

- Pray for ways to use your gifts in the service of the church and for others.
- Pray:
  - o That we would never be prideful in the exercise of our spiritual gifts.
  - o That we would never feel inferior because of the gifts that have been given to us.
  - o That the members of CRBC would actively pursue and exercise their spiritual gifts.

**The Gifts of the Spirit**  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11

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| <b>I.</b>   | <b>Spiritual gifts will <u>exalt</u> the <u>Master</u>.</b>    | <b>12:1-3</b>  |
| 1.          | The gifts are <u>from</u> the Master.                          | 12:1           |
| 2.          | The gifts are <u>for</u> the Master.                           | 12:2-3         |
| <b>II.</b>  | <b>Spiritual gifts will <u>edify</u> the <u>members</u>.</b>   | <b>12:4-7</b>  |
| 1.          | Believers <u>may</u> have different <u>gifts</u> .             | 12:4-6         |
| 2.          | Believers <u>must</u> have identical <u>goals</u> .            | 12:7           |
| <b>III.</b> | <b>Spiritual gifts will <u>endorse</u> the <u>message</u>.</b> | <b>12:8-11</b> |
| 1.          | Gifts may <u>serve</u> different <u>functions</u> .            | 12:8-10        |
| 2.          | Gifts will <u>accomplish</u> the same <u>purpose</u> .         | 12:11          |

NEXT WEEK:  
**Quenching the Spirit**  
1 Thessalonians 5:14-24