



A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of January 28, 2024

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Warm Up

- Have ever been told you have a gift for something? What was that like? What was encouraging? What was challenging?

I Corinthians 12:1-30

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

- What might be going on in the Corinthian church that led Paul to give this teaching?

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

- What do we learn about the unity and diversity of spiritual gifts?

⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Gifts of the Spirit in the Body of Christ

- Paul calls each gift a “manifestation of the Spirit” (7). What are examples of how the Spirit manifests Himself to the church? What purpose unifies these manifestations?

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

- What analogy does Paul use to help the Corinthian Christians? What does the analogy illustrate?

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are

indispensable,²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty,²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

- What are some of the ways Paul addresses the pastoral challenges of competition, pride, and discouragement when it comes to diverse spiritual gifts in the church?
- How does a believer discover their spiritual gifts? Do you have an example of this?

- How does a believer grow in use of their gifts? How have you grown in the use of your gifts?
- Can spiritual gifts be abused, or wrongly used? What would be an example?
- In the Body, we need each other to discover our spiritual gifts and the manifestations of the Holy Spirit among us. Take time to encourage each other now by sharing ways you see the Spirit at work through one another.
- Spiritual gifts lead the church to see the Lord. How does your spiritual gift point to what is true about Jesus?
- Reflect on this week's passage together, and use it as a guide for a time of prayer.

To hear sermons and access past study guides visit www.wepc.org/resources/sermons-media-study-guide

Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,
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