

# This is Us

## Pt 5 – Serving One Another and Our Community

Oct. 08, 2017

Pastor Bill Bowers

**MVC MISSION:** *We exist to connect with God and each other through intentional relationships in Thurston County and beyond. Discipleship is the core of our ministry. Discipleship is the core of our ministries.*

### **Our ministry priorities are:**

Reconciling people to God

Growing disciples who grow disciples

Providing real solution to real problems

### **Serving one another and our community**

**The Big Idea: God has gifted each one of us just as He wants for the good of others.**

#### **1. Unity in diversity: we have different gifts but the same Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:1-11)**

“Lord” (Gk. *kurios*) was the official title of the Roman Emperor— “Caesar is Lord.”

The major theme: There are different gifts but one source: God.

- There is unity in diversity.
- The word “Trinity” isn’t in the Bible, but the concept is.

**Each one of you has been given “a manifestation of the Spirit.”**

- Each one is gifted.
- God determines who gets what.
- The gifts are used for the common good.
- They announce God’s presence.

#### **2. An illustration of unity in diversity: the human body. (1 Cor. 12:12-31)**

**See John 7:37-39**

EGR=Extra Grace Required

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### **HomeGroup and Personal Study Questions**

- Pastor Bill introduced the term, “unity in diversity” to us this week. Can you think of an example of unity in diversity besides the one(s) he gave to us?
- “Each one of you has been given a manifestation of the Spirit...” (1 Cor. 12:7). What do you think about this? Have you been used by God in any way that would qualify as spiritually gifted? What can you share about the experience?
- What do you think is the purpose of spiritual gifts?
- Read 1 Cor. 12:22-26. How would you explain this portion of the Apostle’s teaching? Can you provide any examples that can support your interpretation?
- The Apostle closes out this portion of his teaching with the following exhortation: “You should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.” Why would you do this? How would you do this? Do you do this? Why or why not?
- Pastor Bill concluded his teaching with a quote from Jesus; “Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart’” John (the Gospel) explains Jesus saying “living water” refers to the Spirit. What is your experience with this? What does the Spirit flowing from your heart look like? Is the Spirit flowing from your heart? Can you give an example?