

The Spirit, the Body, and the Gifts: The Gifts  
1 Corinthians 12:1-31

I. Introduction

A. Full integration

1. God fully integrated
2. Creates a fully integrated Body (in His image)
3. Empowered with fully integrated gifts which believers must choose to put into practice

II. Seven Fundamental Facts and Seven Fundamental Questions About Spiritual Gifts from 1 Corinthians 12-14

**A. God Intends His people to understand spiritual gifts and their role in our lives (12:1)**

1. **1 Corinthians 12:1 (ESV) *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed.***
2. **Question: How does a spiritual gift differ from a natural talent, a learned skill, or a called position?**
3. Two words for spiritual gift
  - a. *pneumatikos* - represents the divine source of every gift
    - (1) “things pertaining to the spirit
    - (2) Emphasizes the spiritual nature and origin of spiritual gifts
    - (3) not natural talents but supernatural empowerment from H.S.
  - b. *charismata* - represents the divine condition of every gift
    - (1) “grace gift”
    - (2) Spiritual gift is a gift of God’s grace
    - (3) Not a naturally developed ability but a gift bestowed on a believer
  - c. A spiritual gift is “a divine endowment of a special ability for service upon a member of the body of Christ for God’s glory and the common good.”
    - (1) Distinguish from talents/abilities
    - (2) Distinguish from graces/offices
      - (a) Graces: features of Christian character expected in every Spirit-filled believer
        - i) Fruit of the Spirit
        - ii) Galatians 5:22-23
      - (b) Offices
        - i) Positions within the church for the administration of its ministries
        - ii) Callings and elections by God to specific congregational oversight/responsibility
4. **Information from God always conveys an expectation of action for God.**
  - a. Surrender to greater likeness to Jesus

- (1) Because the Father delights in the Son: who is the epitome of all humans are created to be in relation to God
  - (2) The more we become like Jesus
    - (a) The more we become like what we are created to be
    - (b) The more delight we experience in God's glory
  - b. Surrender to greater glory for God
  - c. Surrender to greater joy in life
- B. There are varieties of spiritual gifts (12:4)**
1. **1 Corinthians 12:4 (ESV)** *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;*
  2. **Why tell us this?**
    - a. To reveal something about God
    - b. To reveal something about the church
    - c. To reveal something about ourselves
  3. God loves to put unity in diversity on display
    - a. Many parts of one body
    - b. Many organisms in one world
    - c. Many people in one church
- C. Spiritual gifts are manifestations of the Holy Spirit (12:7)**
1. **1 Corinthians 12:7 (ESV)** *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*
  2. **What does "Manifestation" mean?**
- D. Spiritual gifts are given by God to the believer for the common good. (12:7)**
1. **1 Corinthians 12:7 (ESV)** *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*
  2. **What is the common good God intends to accomplish with spiritual gifts?**
- E. God appoints spiritual gifts in the church (12:28)**
1. **1 Corinthians 12:28 (ESV)** *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.*
    - a. God has appointed that there be gifts in the church
    - b. God appoints what gifts are present in the church
  2. **What gifts has God appointed here at Cornerstone?**
- F. Spiritual gifts are to be desired by the believer and by the believing church as part of their pursuit of love. (14:1)**
1. **1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV)** *Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.*
  2. **What role does love play in spiritual gifts?**
- G. The primary goal of spiritual gifts in the church is the edification of the church. (14:3, 4, 5, 12, 17, 19, 26, 31)**
1. **1 Corinthians 14:26 (ESV)** *What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.*
  2. **What does edification of the church mean and why is it a priority?**