

Part 25 | PUBLIC WORSHIP:
The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts | 1 Corinthians 12
First Corinthians...Sinners Yet Saints

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:12

What is a spiritual gift? The word most commonly used to describe spiritual gifts is the greek word *charismatos*. This word is form of the word grace. Simply put, a spiritual gift is a grace gift from God. This word is not used exclusively of the spiritual gifts we will be studying the next few weeks, but it is also used in a general way of a gracious gift given including our salvation (Romans 1:11, 5:15, 6:23, 1 Timothy 4:14, 2 Timothy 1:6).

The good, working definition for the term spiritual gifts in this passage is: “a Spirit-given, divine enablement for ministry in the body of Christ.” This passage affirms that each believer in Jesus Christ is given at least one spiritual gift by the Spirit for use in the body of Christ. Today I would like to highlight three important themes found in this chapter.

Theme #1—The Holy Spirit Is Vital To Every Believer

- The Holy Spirit _____ to Salvation (verse 3)
- The Holy Spirit _____ Spiritual Gifts (verses 4-11)
- The Holy Spirit _____ Each Believer into one Body (verse 13)

Theme #2—The Body Of Christ Is Unified through Diversity

- Various gifts, services and activities yet one God (verses 3-11)
- Various Body Parts yet one Body (verses 12-27)
- Various Gifted People Yet One Church (verses 28-31)

Theme #3—The Body of Christ Is Completed By The Incomplete

- Each member is _____ for the whole (verses 3-14)
- Each member is _____ by itself (verses 15-31)
- Each member is _____ upon the other members (verses 15-31)

Let’s face it, we need each other! God has gifted you uniquely and placed you specifically in this body so that you can bring completion to this body of believers. We need you to use and develop your giftedness for the edification of the whole!

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Theme #1—The Holy Spirit Is Vital To Every Believer

- The Holy Spirit Empowerment in Salvation (verse 3)
- The Holy Spirit Distributes Spiritual Gifts (verses 4-11)
- The Holy Spirit Baptize Each Believer into one Body (verse 13)

Theme #2—The Body Of Christ Is Unified through Diversity

- Various gifts, services and activities yet one God (verses 3-11)
- Various Body Parts yet one Body (verses 12-27)
- Various Gifted People Yet One Church (verses 28-31)

Theme #3—The Body of Christ Is Completed By The Incomplete

- Each member is fitted for the whole (verses 3-14)
- Each member is incomplete by itself (verses 15-31)
- Each member is interdependent upon the other members (verses 15-31)

Let’s face it, we need each other! God has gifted you uniquely and placed you specifically in this body so that you can bring completion to this body of believers. We need you to use and develop your giftedness for the edification of the whole!