

Discussion Questions • 1 Corinthians 12

- 1. The apostle Paul dedicated an entire chapter of this book (1 Corinthians) to discuss the issue of spiritual gifts.
 - a. What was the issue that caused Paul to give so much attention to this subject? (See vs.1-2)
 - b. What are spiritual gifts, and is there a distinction between spiritual gifts and talents/skill? Can a talent or skill become a spiritual gift?
- 2. In this chapter (vs. 7, 11), Paul implies that every Christian has a spiritual gift. (*Also see Romans 12:3-8*)
 - a. For what purpose does the Holy Spirit give spiritual gifts to believers?
 - b. How would a Christian discern their spiritual gift?
 - c. What spiritual gift(s) have been affirmed in you?
 - d. How are you using your gifts for the common good?
- 3. Paul uses the human body with its multiple parts yet united as one body, to illustrate unity in the midst of diversity in the church.
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26. What specific comparisons does Paul highlight between the human body and the church of Christ to illustrate unity and diversity in the body?
 - b. How would you explain our equality in Christ vs our diversity in giftedness? (Are all gifts equal? Are all members equal?)
 - c. What are his main points?
- 4. Vs. 11. "All these are the works of one and the same Spirit, and He distributes them to each one, just as He determines."
 - a. In light of verse 11, should we seek after spiritual gifts we do not have? (e.g. healing, miracles, words of wisdom, words of knowledge etc)?
 - b. In light of Paul's teaching in verse 11, what implications bear upon Christians in their ministry to the body of Christ as lay leaders or as paid ministry staff?

OPTIONAL: Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon?

Wrap Up and Prayer: What do you feel you should change in your life tomorrow as a result of this discussion? Pray for each other along with other requests.