

1st Corinthians: Be A Believer

Given to Everyone

1st Corinthians 12:7-11

Refresher

- Written by Paul to the church in Corinth
- There was a saying “**To live like a Corinthian**” untethered lifestyle
- Corrective letters
- **I do not want you to be ignorant: Israel, Gifts, Return**
- Cessationism vs. hyper pentecostalism
- The Holy Spirit is a *person* in the Trinity
- His work: para, en, epi (alongside in, upon/filling)
- Various gifts, different administrations, same Lord & Spirit

[Pray]

Let's look at v7 again

12:7

Manifestation of the Spirit

exhibition, i.e. (figuratively) expression, (by extension) a bestowment

Not some strange, weird, unholy ghost-like event

But a holy, orderly, visible, and palpable proof and touch of God

Given to Everyone

If you're a believer, you HAVE spiritual gifts

Just like if you have a body, you have physical talents

Because if the Holy Spirit lives within you, because you believe in Jesus and love God, how could he not want to give you something so wonderful of Himself?

Gifts when traveling, gifts from parents, gifts for my kids - sometimes the things we cherished the most weren't even that valuable, but they were special because who gave them and they were thinking of us or they remind us of them.

[Mark 16:14-18 NKJV] Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach

the gospel to every creature. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

The gifts God gave you will bring you closer to him as you use them.
When you exercise your faith, it grows. And it's not complicated.
It just means believing God at his word, and practicing it. Without doubting!

[Mark 11:22-24 NKJV] So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive [them], and you will have [them].

*I'll admit, I've prayed that. The mountain didn't move. But I definitely doubted.
But other times, I've prayed for things that seemed impossible to me, and God quickly brought them to pass*

[Matthew 19:26 NKJV] But Jesus looked at [them] and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Not sure what gifts you have? Not sure you're right with God? I want you to pray, in your heart and mind, as we continue our study. See what God will do.

For the common good

Ch. 14 talks about the importance of gifts exercised for edification of the church.

Edification, not exaltation

The gifts are meant at the least to build us up personally with God.
And at the greatest build the church up.

Gifts can't be learned if you don't have them. They can only be learned to use if you've been given them.

Like Timmy's new bike

[Acts 8:18-24 NKJV] And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to

him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! "You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. "For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity." Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me."

Classes on tongues - babbling in the flesh!

I'd argue that each of us have so many gifts and talents. Ones we might know deep down but are afraid or don't think we're worthy or maybe we just don't know about.

Girl in youth group a long time ago saying she doesn't have any talent. She saw herself as worthless. But she wasn't.

The rest of the verses we'll look at

By the Same Spirit

Despite the many variances, it's the same Spirit

Again, the world, sometimes even the church will say things erroneously about different spirits. If it's of God, it's the same Spirit.

[Matthew 12:24-28 NKJV] Now when the Pharisees heard [it] they said, "This [fellow] does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. "If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? "And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast [them] out? Therefore they shall be your judges. "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

:8-11

Given BY the Spirit

These are not impersonal, adjective "spiritual" gifts
They are gifts GIVEN BY, The person of The Holy Spirit.

"Holy Spirit's" gifts. Personal. Loving. Powerful. Relational with God.

1 - The Word of Wisdom

Personally - praying, seeking an answer for God on something. It's the logos. How the written word applies to a situation you can't make sense of. No amount of charting pros and cons will give you the right answer. But the Word of Wisdom will.

With others - seeking advice, given a word for someone in need. Just sense God giving you a specific Bible verse to share with them about a situation.

Marriage counseling, unequally yoked

Can be a very obvious word "Thou shalt not steal"

But the Word of God given with special revelation to a specific situation.

May not be the obvious word, but when it's heard it makes absolute sense.

2 - Word of Knowledge

This one is a little more intimate. This is "reading your email" type of thing.

Pastor talking about people always coming up after service and asking that - seriously

This can be given personally - praying about a situation, person, thing...and you're just given some heavenly insight about it that no one else would know. Good or bad.

Prophets of old given insights into enemy plans, or like Nathan, "David, you're the man"

Praying about a girl a friend was trying to set me up with, but I didn't quite see it.

Could be insight into someone lying to you. Lying to others.

Apostles, Ananias & Sapphira - not lied to men, but to the Holy Spirit

How foolish!

3 - Faith

This isn't a leap of faith. I hate that saying. Real faith isn't a leap, it's a step.

[Hebrews 11:1-3 NKJV] Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a [good] testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

The gift to believe in Jesus at all really is a gift of God by the Holy Spirit.

But this is sometimes when you just personally need to step out in faith

Or you encourage someone else in their struggle by having the faith for them, so to speak

It's believing and helping others believe

4 - Gifts of Healings

This is what it is. Look at the disciples and apostles and early church.

Like we talked about in America. We're hardened to it. We're likely to give credit to other means. But God uses it big-time to bring people to faith.

[James 5:13-18 NKJV] Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess [your] trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

Personal - healing in your own life

Corporate - healing for others around you, in the church.

Don't be afraid to pray simply, boldly, and honestly for healing. For simple things like a cold or a boo-boo, or for complex things like cancer or, dare I say it, even resurrection.

Is one really any harder than the other for God? There's a reason he calls death "sleeping" at times...to him it wasn't any harder than waking someone up.

If the disciples were commanded to do it, aren't we disciples too?

5 - Working of Miracles

Similar thing here - miracles! Things only God could do. Only an answer from heaven would provide.

Moses, 10 plagues

Elijah, fire from heaven

Disciples, raising from dead, casting out demons, etc.

power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, hosts

The trust in a heavenly host to do what you can't...defeat the enemy

Reveal God's work.

2 Thess talks about lying signs and wonders. The enemy will use false versions of these to sway many in the last days. I'm thinking of those TV preachers again.

6 - Prophecy

Speaking forth the word of God

Speaking "into" someone's life it's been said.

Specific words for them not just wisdom, but specific for them

Speaking forth God's truth about the word, a situation, God's heart and vision and direction

For the church

But also can be prophetic - things to come

Man tying up himself with Paul's belt to show what was in Paul's future

Not a reason to not go, but insight into what will happen, even in God's will

John - revelation

I think in some simple form, just practically looking at the word and the direction of something and applying the two. Not necessarily on such and such a date...but if God judged S&G, why wouldn't he judge us?

7 - Discerning of spirits

Distinguishing, discerning, judging

Jesus casting out demons, but also knowing what was sickness and what wasn't just sickness

Knowing when you hear something, it's not right, it's not of God. Even if a preacher says it.

Being able to read the lines when someone teaches something...that it's not biblical. Even if you can't put your finger on it right away.

Cults.

We need this heavily in our day and age. We're ignorant and lacking!

All the garbage let into the church because we refused to believe or listen or look for the gift of discerning of spirits!

There are doctrines of demons the Bible says. And the Holy Spirit will quickly point those out to us...because *they're not the same spirit*

But this can also be simply seeing where someone is coming from...discerning the truth in a matter. Trustworthy or not.

Leaving a church mid-service

8 - Various kinds of tongues

Heavenly languages (we'll look at more in ch 14)

Earthly languages

Apostles at pentecost - everyone heard them in their own language

Praying in tongues - speaking to God the overflow of the heart

Friend on a missionary trip in Mexico, speaking fluent spanish with someone

Only happened once

9 - Interpretation of tongues

Given insight into what those tongues mean

Not by the same person - by someone else. Doesn't speak the language. Or maybe does and is shocked to hear it.

Word to bless God. **Prophecy does not come through tongues.**

But again, you can't learn this. You can't go babble in a room and practice. It's a gift!

You can practice it yourself with God.

The Spirit works all these! Not us.

You can't conjure it up, like Simon the sorcerer thought.

Despite what the TV preachers do.

The Holy Spirit is the one doing the work. The gift is just the avenue he works directly through.

Dividing each one individually.

Everyone one of us, irrespective of each other, yet to work in conjunction with each other, is given gifts by the Holy Spirit

As He will. Again, it's the Lord's will to give them and to use them in us. We can simply say yes or no.

We can't earn them. He gives them.

We can't manifest them. He shows up.

When they are used they edify the body and bring people to God.

Do you earnestly desire the gifts? Do you want a touch from God?

Let's pray and ask Him for these things. He desires to give them!

It's God's will for your life.