

## SERMON NOTES

### Now Concerning Spiritual Gifts (1Cor 12:1-11)

**1Cor 12:1-11** (ESV) – <sup>1</sup> Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be unaware. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is accursed”; and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. <sup>7</sup> But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

<sup>8</sup> For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

**Main Point:** *The Gift of the Holy Spirit given to us is the prize. The spiritual gifts given through us are for building the church. So, regarding spiritual gifts, a question to ask is “am I useful to God for building the church?”*

## The Gift of the Holy Spirit

### 1. The Issue Was Pride in the Church over Spiritual Gifts

- a) It had to do with their high regard for certain spiritual gifts –
- b) It divides the world into those with our values and those not –
- c) It now asks “what makes me special” “what’s my spiritual gift –
- d) **A List of Spiritual Gifts in Paul’s Letters** - as apostles, as prophets, as pastors, as teachers, as evangelists, of prayer, of

hospitality, of service, of encouragement, of giving, of leading, of showing mercy, of the word of wisdom, of the word of knowledge, of faith, of healings, of miraculous powers, of distinguishing between spirits, of speaking in tongues, of the interpretation of tongues, of helps, of administration, of martyrdom, and of celibacy (from Eph 4, Rom 12, 1Cor 12, 1Cor 7, Phil 1)

## **2. The GIFT of the Spirit Is Greater than the Spiritual Gifts.**

a) Before we were like everyone else, enslaved to evil desires –

b) When God saved us, He gave us the promised Holy Spirit –

c) Now we're a new creation with Holy Spirit with us and in us –

d) That's what makes us who believe, great and special in this life –

**1Cor 12:3** (ESV) – <sup>3</sup>No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

## **3. Because of the Gift of the Holy Spirit in you ...**

a) In this life, we will no longer be lost and wandering –

b) In this life, we will never be abandoned or alone –

c) In this life, we will be changed –

d) In this life, we will be safe and secure, for God holds on to us –

e) In this life, we are no longer alienated from God –

**John 16:13** (ESV) – <sup>13</sup>The Spirit of Truth ... He will guide you into all truth.

**John 14:17** (ESV) – <sup>17</sup> forever, the Spirit ... lives with you and will be in you.

**John 14:26** (ESV) – <sup>17</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

**Eph 1:13-14** (ESV) – <sup>13</sup> In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed

with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it.

**Heb 13:5** (ESV) – <sup>5</sup> I will never leave you or forsake you.

**Rom 8:14** (ESV) – <sup>14</sup> all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

**Rom 8:26** (ESV) – <sup>26</sup> The Spirit help us in our weakness.

## **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

### **4. The Spiritual Gifts Are Given to the Church not to Us**

- a) Spiritual gifts are manifestations of the Holy Spirit –
- b) Through each believer for the common good (the Church) –
- c) Pleasure not pride in the church because of spiritual gifts –
- d) Gifts assigned to each one individually “just as He wills.”

**1Cor 12:7** (ESV) – <sup>7</sup> But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

**1Cor 12:11** (ESV) – <sup>11</sup> But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

## **Being Useful to God in the Spirit**

### **5. Availability over Ability**

- a) The Lord will make whoever He calls able –
- b) Not relying on natural giftedness allows for dependence on God –
- c) Natural ability is nowhere near enough to accomplish God’s plan –
- d) The question is not am I gifted enough but am I available enough –

**2Cor 12:9-10** (NASB) – <sup>9</sup> My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness ... <sup>10</sup> for when I am weak then I am strong.

## 6. Planning over Plans

a) Preparation and practices that align our hearts, minds with Jesus

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**Gal 5:22-23** (NASB) – <sup>22</sup> The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control.

## 7. Full Participation Trophy

a) The church needs everyone –

b) The question isn't what do I get out of participating but rather does someone need what the Lord has given me to manifest –

### For Further Thought and Discussion:

1. What was helpful to you in this sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Why is it important to know that upon belief in Jesus, God gives us the in-dwelling Holy Spirit to live with us and to be in us?
3. Which of these promises about the in-dwelling Holy Spirit are most meaningful to you?

Because of the Gift of the Holy Spirit:

- a) In this life, we will no longer be lost and wandering,
  - b) In this life, we will never be abandoned or alone,
  - c) In this life, we will be changed, transformed to be like Christ,
  - d) In this life, we will be safe and secure, for God holds on to us,
  - e) In this life, we are no longer alienated from God.
4. Why is it important to know that the Holy Spirit is manifested in different way through each one of us for the common benefit of the church?

5. Regarding availability - Are you an available person or are you over-booked or distracted or oblivious? When interrupted are you irritable or charitable? Are there some things you have the ability to do, but won't do? Is it easy for you to be under authority or do you have to be the boss? Do you have to be recognized or can you serve unnoticed?
6. Regarding preparation - Are you in the Word daily, learning how to "accurately handle the Word of truth?" Are you learning the Word so that "the Holy Spirit can bring it to remembrance?" Do you pray about anything and everything or do you feel too guilty to pray? Are you forgiving, forbearing, and gentle or are you critical or angry or fearful? Are you more and more able to flee immorality and pursue righteousness?
7. Regarding full participation - Do you tell yourself reasons to show up or do you look for reasons not to show up? Do you sometimes tell white lies about not showing up to something? Do you attend church every week? Are you in full participant in a community group?
8. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?