

## From Sinners to Saints

### 1 Corinthians 12:9-14

- Last week the Apostle Paul begin to share with us how spiritual gifts should produce corporate unity within the body of Christ. **V7** says “**the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all**”. The Example he uses to illustrate this unity is **The Holy Spirit V4, Jesus V5, God The Father V6**, The Godhead.
- Saying there are diversity of gifts, differences in administrations, and differing activities, but with the same purpose to glorify and praise The Lord. Take a FB team, everyone isn't an offensive lineman but without them the running backs go nowhere, or a QB, then the receivers get no touches, all with different roles but the same goal.

### V9-14

- The gifts are broken down into three categories > **1.** The Sign gifts, **2.** Serving gifts, **3.** The speaking gifts, the Word of wisdom and Word of Knowledge are considered speaking gifts as it usually means someone exercising those gifts will ultimately have to open their mouths and speak revelatory wisdom or knowledge about a situation or circumstance.
- The next gift mentioned is considered a serving gift > **V9 Faith**- this is different from saving faith, it's a Divine ability to see something that God wants done and sustain unwavering confidence that God will do it regardless of the seemingly impossible odds. What is commonly mistaken as faith is someone believing God for some fleshly dream of becoming an actor or actress, or sports figure, it has nothing to do with fleshly pursuits but in fulfilling God's will within the body of Christ.
- George Muller was a classic example of a man with the gift of faith, without making his needs known to anyone but God he cared for thousands of orphans over a period of sixty years. A well known story involves a morning when his orphanage in England didn't have enough food to feed the three hundred children they cared for.
- Instead of panicking he prayed and seated them at the table believing that God would supply the need, a local baker shows up with extra bread left over from his shop, and a milkman who's cart breaks down right in front of the orphanage, and instead of letting the milk spoils he offers it to them, that's the gift of faith at work.

- **Gifts of healing**- a sign gift where a person can intervene supernaturally for the curing and restoration of health, **Acts 3:6-7** Peter heals a man lame from birth. Having this gift doesn't mean you can heal every sickness on demand, remember Paul had this gift as well yet in **2 Cor 12:7-9** he couldn't heal himself.
- **V10 The Working of miracles**- a sign gift that entails the ability to do that which is humanly impossible, three words usually accompany biblical miracles according to scripture > **1. Power, 2. Wonder, 3. Signs**, each point directly to God. Power is supernaturally given, wonder awes the senses, and signs authenticates the message God wants to share. **Acts 19:11-20** show this example for afterward people came confessing their sins, and getting rid of the ungodly practices.
- **Prophecy**- a sign gift where a person receives direct knowledge from God to foretell future events, but it also can mean the ability to forth tell a message. Sometimes this person can predict future events, more often they simply express the mind of God by speaking His Word. **Acts 21:10-14** Agabus spoke about what would happen to Paul when he goes to Jerusalem, but Paul already knew this **Acts 20:22-23** The Spirit had told him this, so Agabus was forth telling what God had already said.
- I endeavor to do this every time I speak in the pulpit, to forth speak what God has already said, which in turn reminds and encourages the hearers that what The Lord has already shared with them they can trust that He will do it amen!
- **Discerning of spirits**- It enables a person to detect spiritual truth from error. It can be both a serving and a sign gift, as a serving gift it protects the church from false teaching, and aides in spiritual warfare ensuring that the body is not led astray. But as a sign gift it provides immediate supernatural insight into whether a message or person is speaking by The Holy Spirit or by Satan, thus exposing deception.
- **Tongues**- a sign gift, it allows you to speak in a language not previously learned, and that can be either a heavenly or a humanly language. People mistake this gift as the sign of salvation but nowhere in scripture does it say that, people spoke in tongues after being saved as a gift of their salvation, but it is not the evidence of salvation. Many don't speak in tongues and still are saved.
- **Interpretation of tongues**- also a sign gift having the ability to understand a language which you have never learned before and then be able to give its message.

- **1Cor 14:26-28-** these are such misunderstood gift that Paul explains how they are to operate in a church setting, saying that if there is no interpreter then there should not be any unknown languages, even telling why in **1Cor 14:23** saying anyone who is not a believer come into a church setting hearing people speak in unknown languages without any interpretations will think these people have lost their minds > **Acts 2:1-12-** when Peter spoke in tongues it was in languages others understood.
- **V11-14** we went through seven gifts in just three verses, and in each gift although distributed to individuals they are for one purpose and that is unity not division. **V9** we read “**same Spirit**” “twice, **V11 “same Spirit**, then in **V12** One body is also mentioned twice, then **V13** says one Spirit, baptized into One body, being made to drink into one Spirit, for although we are many members we are still one body **V14**.