

July 6th, 2025
Pastor Adam James

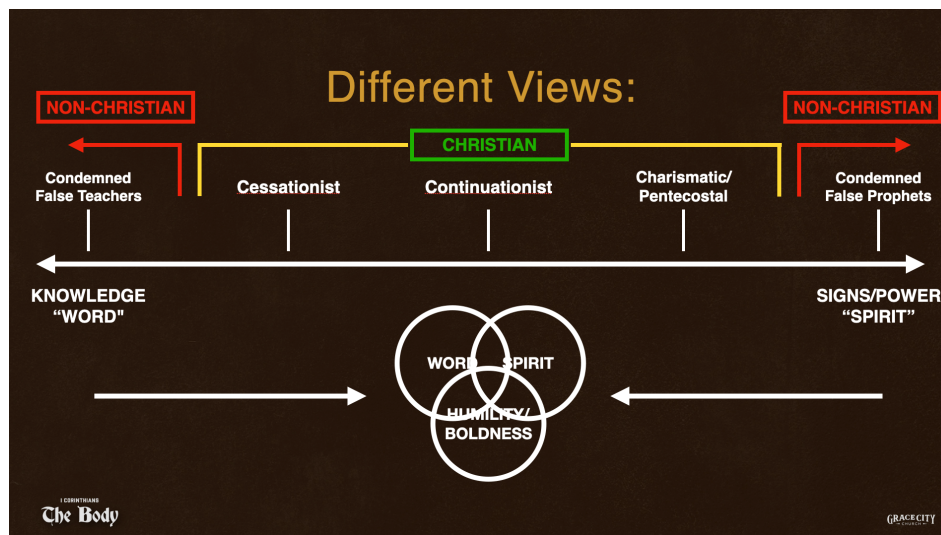
1 Corinthians:
"The Body"



"Spirit Gifts: Grace In Action" 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-31

5 Principles on Spiritual Gifts:

Principle #1: God's Word Should Inform Our Experiences, Not The Other Way Around.



Principle #2: Spiritual Gifts Are Grace In Action

*"For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of **wisdom**, and to another the utterance of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healing** by the one Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another the **ability to distinguish between spirits**, to another **various kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**." –1 Corinthians 12:1-10*

Principle #3: The Holy Spirit Is Sovereign

"All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apports to each one individually as he wills." –1 Corinthians 12:11

Principle #4: One Body, Different Parts, All Needed

"Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?" –1 Corinthians 12:29

Principle #5: Fruit over Gifts, Character over Charisma, Love Builds Up

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1 Corinthians:
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Discussion Questions:

Getting to Know Me

1. How was your 4th of July? What did you do to celebrate?
2. What has been your experience with the topic of spiritual gifts? Would you categorize your past experience in one of the two buckets, Pastor Adam described as overly weird and lacking the Word or overly doctrinal and lacking the life of the Spirit?

Into the Bible/Sermon

1. Why is it essential for God's Word to inform our spiritual experiences?
2. Why were the gifts given to the Church? How does the purpose of the gifts help inform the practice of them?
3. Why do you think the topic of spiritual gifts has the propensity to be decisive within the Church? Why do you think certain groups over-emphasize and certain groups under-emphasize the gifts? What potential pitfalls are present if spiritual gifts are not taught on at all?
4. How would you define a spiritual gift based on v.7?
5. Based on v.11, who gets to decide how to "hand out" the gifts?
6. How is the passage from 1 Corinthians 12 unifying for the Church regarding spiritual gifts?

Application

1. Of the two ditches Pastor Adam described(Over-emphasis on knowledge = dead vs. Over-emphasis on signs/powers = weird), which are you more naturally inclined to gravitate towards? What would be a good first step for you to take in order to more fully integrate both the Word and the Spirit in your understanding of spiritual gifts?
2. Why is it important for believers to have a robust understanding of what the Bible teaches about the gifts of the Spirit? If we choose to avoid the topic because of mis-informed experiences we've witnessed before, what are we risking leaving on the table?
3. What is your next step in exercising the gifts God has given you for the edification of the Church? What is one thing you can do this week in order to better understand how God might want to use you to bless and build up the body of Christ?