

Sermon 56: Spiritual Gifts: 1 Corinthians 12:1-7

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:1-7 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal..."

Part 1: Four words to remember: 12:1 "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant..."

- **Enabling:** These abilities do not start with us
- **Opportunity:** These opportunities are given to us
- **Edification:** These gifts were given to build up others
- **Work:** These gifts were given to do work

Part 2: The centrality of the Godhead: 12:2-6 "Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. ⁴ Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all..."

- **Conversion:**
 - "Ye know that ye were..."
 - "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost..."
- **Equipping for service:** "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit..."
 - **"Diversity of gifts:"** Divine enabling
 - **"Differences of administrations:"** Opportunity of service
 - **"Diversity of operations:"** Kinds of work
 - **"One Spirit:"** The One who empowers
 - **"One Lord:"** The One who directs
 - **"One God:"** The One who produces fruitfulness in these labors

Part 3: The importance of the local church: 12:7 "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal..."

- **"Given:"** God has a deliberate purpose for the way he distributes spiritual gifts.

- **"To every man:"** Each member of the body is important and the way he has gifted us matter.
- **"To profit withal:"** This is all about others in the body.

Application:

- Each member of the body matters.
- The way God has gifted you is not a mistake.
- He will open door where he has gifted.
- Opportunities will involve labor.
- We should be willing to give of ourselves for the edification of other Christians.