



Clearwater Community Church

THE THREAD

Weaving Sunday's message through your week

Date: March 17, 2019

Passage: 1 Corinthians 12-13

Theme: Marks of a Holy Spirit-Indwelt Community

Conviction: #3: The Holy Spirit creates a new kind of community that reflects Christ to the world.

In 1 Corinthians 12–13, Paul provides us with the following marks of a Holy Spirit-Indwelt Community:

1. Speech consisting of confession rather than cursing (12:1–3).
2. Diverse manifestations of the Spirit's gifts within the unified body of Christ (12:4–31).
 - a. Our church reflects God as his Spirit has uniquely brought this body of believers together (4–11).
 - b. Just like the human body, our church is diversely unified through the work of the Spirit (12–14).
 - c. Diversity: God has placed each different member of this body in its rightful place (15–20).
 - d. Unity: We as individual members cannot function properly without the rest of the members of the body (21–26).
 - e. Conclusion: God has created this body to picture his Son through its diverse members (27–31).
3. Actions done out of love rather than self-interest (13:1–13).
 - a. Without love, my use of my gifts produces nothing (1–3).
 - b. Love acts in the interests of others rather than reacts to please self (4–7).
 - c. Love endures from the present through eternity while the gifts are only for the here and now (8–13).

Main Idea: We as a Spirit-indwelt community reflect Christ to the world by the diverse ways that we serve and love rather than promote self.

Discussion Questions:

- In what ways is your speech still characterized by life apart from the Spirit? How does your confession that Jesus is Lord affect the way that you speak to and about others?

- According to 12:4–26, what indicates diversity within the church? What indicates unity within the church? How can you individually and we as a church promote unity but also diversity?

- How does this type of unified yet diverse body reflect Christ to the world (12:27)?

- Why is that our actions need to be characterized by love more than any of the Spirit's giftings (13:1–3 and 8–13)? What does love in action look like according to 13:4–7? How can you live this out in your service within the church?

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