

1 Corinthians 12

Jesus

I. Spiritual Gifts Don't be Ignorant

1 **Now** concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, **I do not want you to be ignorant:**

Jesus Left Earth/Sent His Spirit/Gave us Spiritual Gifts

John 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the **Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**

John 16:7b ...if I depart, I will send Him to you.

Ephesians 4:7 ... to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of **Christ's gift.** 8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And **gave gifts to men."**

Don't be Ignorant Regarding Spiritual Gifts

- **Don't be ignorant 3x** in NT

1. God's plan for Israel Rom 11:25
2. Second Coming of Jesus 1 Thes 4:13
3. Spiritual Gifts 1 Cor 12:1

2 You know that you were Gentiles, **carried away to these dumb idols,** however **you were led.**

Once carried away by the spirit of Satan to dumb idols. IOWs duped
Now...Don't be ignorant regarding the Spirit of God

3 Therefore I make known to you that **no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed,** and no one can **say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.**

Some in Corinth were claiming to have the Spirit and Cursing Jesus
At the very least exalting the Spirit *above* Jesus

John 16:13 [Jesus] However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He will guide you** into all truth; for **He will not speak on His own** authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 **He will glorify Me,** for **He will take of what is Mine** and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

IOWs Do not be ignorant of the Authority Structure w/in the Godhead
The Father Speaks/Jesus Reiterates/Spirit Recalls

John 12:49 [Jesus] For **I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father** who sent Me gave Me a command, **what I should say and what I should speak. 50b** ...Therefore, whatever **I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.**

John 14:26 [Jesus] ...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 things that I said to you.**

Take away: When Jesus is exalted Jesus the Spirit is sent

The Spirit of Jesus/Spirit of the Father are the same Spirit [Romans 8:9]
We receive the Spirit the moment we believe

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation in whom also, **having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit** of promise...

We receive the Spirit the moment we believe
We receive the gifting of the Spirit then/afterward. Each one has a gift

4 There are **diversities of gifts,** but the **same Spirit.**

The same gift may operate differently in different people
Experiences may vary/Feelings may vary...Same Spirit

5 There are **differences of ministries,** but the **same Lord.** 6 And there are **diversities of activities,** but it is the **same God** who works **all in all.**

Triune God delivering Gifts/Ministries/Activities to each of us

- **Same Spirit:** Utilizing diversity w/in Gifts
- **Same Lord:** Calling us to Different Ministries
- **Same God:** Operating in/through Diverse Activities in all of us

7 But the manifestation of the **Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all...**

The Spirit makes known to us our individual gifting
Given to us for the profit of all

- **Cessation:** Gifts ceased with the Apostles
- **Q.** Why would God cease that which profits all His people?

The gifts given to each of us are to profit/better each other...

8 ...for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the **Spirit,** to another the **word of knowledge** through the **same Spirit,** 9 to another **faith** by the **same Spirit,** to another gifts of **healings** by the **same Spirit,** 10 to another the working of **miracles,** to another **prophecy,** to another **discerning** of

spirits, to another different kinds of **tongues**, to another the **interpretation** of tongues.

One of Four Lists of Spiritual Gifts
Romans 12. Ephesians 4. 1 Peter 4. 1 Corinthians 12

- **Word of Wisdom:** Peace/Unity through supernatural wisdom to edify

Acts 6:2 [Early church Greek widows neglected from welfare tables] Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 5 **And the saying pleased the whole multitude.** [Chose 6/7 Greek believers filled w/the Holy Spirit]

- **Word of Knowledge:** Knowledge from the Holy Spirit/Still small voice?

1 Corinthians 2:11b ...no one knows the things of God **except the Spirit of God.**

- **Faith:** Special Faith in Certain Situations: To step out/speak/act on God's Word
 1. **Abe/Sarah:** Acting on God's Word of a son
 2. **Elijah:** Calling fire in front of 100's
 3. **Peter:** Stand and walk
- Healings: Biker/Coma/Fever
- Miracles: Outside of natural laws
- Prophecy: Speaking forth the Word of God through anointing of the Spirit
- Discernment of spirits: Even if no concrete rationale. E.g. Spiral/Unicorn/Purple

1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God...

- Different kinds of tongues
- Interpretation of tongues [ch.14]

Romans 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...**in proportion to our faith.**

Calvary Chapel Yelm believes the Gifts of the Spirit are in operation today
The gifts will remain in operation until Jesus returns as per the Word of God

Calvary Chapels have sometimes been rightly seen as "too Pentecostal for the Baptists and too Baptist for the Pentecostals"; we have been called "Pentebaptist" or "Baptical."

11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things distributing to each one individually **as He wills.**

Do not be ignorant...The Holy Spirit give gifts for the profit of OTHERS
The Holy Spirit distributes these gifts AS HE WILLS

II. Many Members United in One Body

12 For as the **body is one** and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are **one body**, so also is Christ. 13 For by **one Spirit** we were all baptized into **one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into **one Spirit**.

Physical body: Many parts yet still one body
Body of Christ: Many parts yet one body unified in one Spirit

Romans 12:4 For as we have **many members in one body**, but all the members **do not have the same function**, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

IOWs Though individually different...Our cooperate identity is in Christ
We do not have the liberty to go rogue. Danger Will Robinson

14 For in fact the body is **not one member but many**. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, **I am not of the body**," is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, **I am not of the body**," is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?

Going rogue *is not* the will of God for anyone in the Body of Christ

18 **But now** God has **set the members**, each one of them, **in the body just as He pleased**. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

God arranges each member in His body as He pleases for His purpose
Don't exalt yourself above those you feel have a lesser gift

20 **But now** indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "**I have no need of you**"; nor again the head to the feet, "**I have no need of you**." 22 No, much rather, those **members** of the body which **seem** to be **weaker are necessary**. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be **less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor**; and our **unpresentable parts** have **greater modesty**

But now don't be ignorant looking down at others
We need each/every member for a healthy working body

- Seemingly weaker are necessary
- Less flashy members are to be honored
- Unpresentable/Uncomely. lit. Imperfect parts have greater modesty?

Modesty: gr. *Yoos hay-mo* Uncomely to men yet in the eyes of God: Charm. Elegance of figure. External beauty and Decorum

We are to see others as God sees them
IOWs What God is able to do in them...

2 Corinthians 5:16 Therefore, from now on, **we regard no one according to the flesh.** Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.

We give more honor to the those with less visible giftings. Why?
Only with them can those with more visible giftings succeed

...24 [that] our presentable parts have no need.

The show goes in the front because of what goes on behind the scenes
No one is to fall through the cracks...

24b ...But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that **part which lacks it,** 25 that there should be **no schism in the body,** but that the members should have the **same care for one another.** 26 And if **one member suffers, all the members suffer with it;** or if **one member is honored, all the members rejoice** with it.

God honors those w/less visible giftings because they bind the body together
That all may work together caring/suffering/honoring/rejoicing with one another

I want every member of this church to be a worker. We do not want any drones. If there are any of you who want to eat and drink, and do nothing, there are plenty of places elsewhere, where you can do it; there are empty pews about in abundance; go and fill them, for we do not want you. **Every Christian, who is not a bee, is a wasp.** The most quarrelsome persons are the most useless, and they who are the most happy are peaceable, are generally those who are doing most for Christ. [Spurgeon]

The Body of Christ

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and **members individually.**

Living Fine Oiled Machine: Recognizing each part as different but equally important
Staying in our lane eliminates most cogs from hindering the Machine

Ephesians 4:12 [Christ gave gifts] ...for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the **body of Christ...**

28 And God has appointed these in the church: first **apostles** [missionaries/sent ones], second **prophets** [Forthtelling not foretelling], third **teachers,** after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. **29** Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? **30** Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

Now do not be ignorant regarding the Spirit

- Q.** Do all speak in tongues? **A.** No
Q. Will all speak in tongues. **A.** No. Only as God wills/distributes

31 But earnestly **desire the best gifts.** And yet I show you a **more excellent way.**

Do not be ignorant. The best gift for you?
The gift God gives to you to most significantly edify others

Ephesians 4:5 ...speak the truth in love. Grow up in all things **into Him** who is the head— Christ— 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the **effective working** by which **every part does its share, causes growth** of the body for the **edifying of itself in love.**

Gifts are to be used to express Love to one another for their edification
But I will show you a more excellent way. Greater pursuit

1 Corinthians 13 Pinnacle/Summit/Highpoint of 1 Corinthians

Jesus

I. A More Excellent Way Let me show you...

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but **have not love,** I have become **sounding brass** or a **clanging cymbal.** 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but **have not love, I am nothing.** 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, **but have not love, it profits me nothing.**

If Religion is noise/Relationship is music
Love/Charity/Agape: Sacrificial Love for Others

- All Giving/Sacrifice/Pain that is motivated by self?
 1. I'm left with nothing to take to heaven
 2. Profit me nothing/waste of time at best...

Matthew 7:22 Many will say to Me in that day, '**Lord, Lord, have we not** prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, '**I never knew you;** depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

I don't recognize you. Why?
You didn't love [*agapaō*] your neighbor as yourself

John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples if you have **love for one another.**

1 John 4:8 He who does not love **does not know God, for God is love.**

- **Agape Definition:** Not found in classical Greek/Ignorant of this kind of love

4 Love **suffers long** and is **kind**; love **does not envy**; love **does not parade** itself, is **not puffed up**; 5 does **not behave rudely**, does **not seek its own**, is **not provoked**, **thinks no evil**; 6 does **not rejoice in iniquity**, but **rejoices in the truth**; 7 **bears all things**, **believes all things**, **hopes all things**, **endures all things**.

- **Agape:** Giving kind of Love. Not as loving pizza. Sacrifice is intrinsic to Agape

John 3:16 For God so **loved** [*agapaō*] **the world** that **He gave** His only begotten Son

- **God is love.** He gets to define it in 15 ways of giving without expecting in return

1. Love suffers long: 7x70
2. Love is kind: Not nice [kindness w/out truth] but kind
3. Love does not envy: Instead rejoice in your good
4. Love does not parade: Not in competition
5. Love is not puffed up: Not superior
6. Love is not rude: Unseemly/Weird Christianity/Making a spectacle
7. Love not self-seeking: Not insisting
8. Love is not provoked: Moved to anger
9. Love thinks no evil: Not looking for a fight
10. Love *does not* rejoice in the sin of others.
11. Love *does* rejoice in the truth/Seeing others walking in Truth [Church open for healing]

Love Bears all things. Believes all things. Hopes all things. Endures all things

Galatians 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "**You shall love** [*agapao*] your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another! ...**22** But the fruit of the Spirit is **love** [*agape*], joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, **let us also walk in the Spirit**. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have **fervent love** [*agape*] for one another...

8 Love never fails.

Love endures forever...

Everything else will eventually fail/fall away including the gifts

8b ...But whether there are prophecies, they will **fail**; whether there are **tongues**, they will **cease**; whether there is **knowledge**, it will **vanish away**. 9 For we **know in part** and we **prophecy in part**. 10 But when **that which is perfect has come**, then **that which is in part will be done away**.

Love is Superior to the Gifts of the Spirit
When the Perfect comes the Gifts will cease

- **That which is Perfect?** Jesus return

Acts 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That **I will pour out of My Spirit** on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants **I will pour out My Spirit in those days**; And they shall prophesy ...**20b**
[Context] Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.

Spiritual Gifts are for this Life. They will Cease when Jesus returns
But now...Don't Exalt the Gift above the Giver...

11 **When I was a child**, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but **when I became a man, I put away childish things.**

Paul to the Church of God in Corinth flaunting/faking gifts
Time to grow up...

2 Corinthians 3:18 [Sanctification] We behold... as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, just as by the **Spirit of the Lord.**

As we behold we change. The more we behold the more we change

12 For **now we see in a mirror, dimly**, but **then face to face.**

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.**

12b... Now I know in part, but **then I shall know just as I also am known.**

One glorious day we will know Jesus just as He knows us
In the meantime be occupied until Jesus comes with these things...

13 And **now abide faith, hope, love**, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**

Love Ch. 13 is sandwiched between the Gift Ch's 12 and 14. Why?
Corinth was motivated by that which was going to disappear. Pride

Gifts will cease. **Q.** When? **A.** When that which is perfect has come

- **Faith:** Will unnecessary when Jesus returns
- **Hope:** Desire + Preparation + Expectation: Unnecessary when Jesus returns

Only love will remain. Pursue what remains.
Next verse in 1 Cor 14:1 Pursue Love...