

SERMON SUMMARY

In this sermon, Pastor Keon Abner explored the role and significance of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers, as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12. He emphasizes the importance of understanding the Holy Spirit not as a secondary aspect of the Trinity but as an essential part of the Godhead, who empowers and equips believers with spiritual gifts. Pastor Keon addresses common misconceptions about the Holy Spirit, particularly the overemphasis on emotional experiences and the misuse of spiritual gifts for personal glory. He clarifies the purpose of spiritual gifts, which are meant to edify the church and glorify God, not to elevate the individual.

ICEBREAKER

• What's the best or funniest gift you've ever received?

UNDERSTANDING THE HOLY SPIRIT. READ JOHN 14:15-31

- Jesus promises to ask the Father to give another Advocate to be with the disciples forever. What does this promise reveal about the nature and role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers?
- Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit using personal pronouns, indicating that the Holy Spirit is a "He" and not an "it." How does understanding the Holy Spirit as a person, rather than an impersonal force, affect our relationship with Him and our perception of His role in our lives?
- What are some common misconceptions about the Holy Spirit and how can we avoid these pitfalls in our own spiritual lives?

CREAD Week 5 Discussion Questions

SPIRITUAL GIFTS. READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

- What is the purpose of spiritual gifts in the life of a believer and the church? Consider how spiritual gifts are meant to edify the church and glorify God, as mentioned in the sermon.
- How can we discern our own spiritual gifts? *Reflect on how the Holy Spirit might be guiding you to recognize and use* **your** gifts.
- What is the difference between spiritual gifts and natural talents?
- How can we ensure that our use of spiritual gifts points back to God rather than ourselves? Think about the importance of humility and the focus on the giver of the gifts, as emphasized in the sermon.

DIGGING DEEPER.

• **The Trinity and the Holy Spirit.** Explore the relationship between the Father, Son, and Spirit in Matthew 28:19 and 2 Corinthians 13:14. How does understanding the Trinity enhance our appreciation of the Spirit's role?