

DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES

DISCUSSION GUIDES

EVERY MONDAY

Discussion Guide Sunday Sermon 4.19.26



Reputation Matters Part 22: Understanding Spiritual Gifts

This guide is designed to help your family or group take what was taught on Sunday and move from simply hearing the information to applying it in ways that build up and encourage one another. Feel free to adjust the depth and number of questions based on your time and the size of your group.

Access the Sermon on the Website & App:

[Click Here](#)

OLIVET
BAPTIST CHURCH

How to Access the OBC App?

- 1 Open your App Store
- 2 Search "Olivet Baptist"
- 3 Download the App
- 4 Open & Create an Account
- 5 Access all of our resources!

The graphic also features a smartphone displaying the app's interface. The screen shows the time 9:28 AM, the OBC logo, and a section titled "Sunday Mornings" with a church image and the text "Join us each week as we worship together!". Below this is a "PODCAST FEEDBACK FORM" section with a microphone icon and a "Podcast Feedback Form" link. The bottom navigation bar includes icons for Home, Search, Giving, Events, and More.

Opening Prayer

Take time to ask the Lord to make us willing vessels who are ready at every moment to be a source of spiritual life for the people around us. To be a vessel thru which the Holy Spirit can distribute His grace in order to build the Body.

Sermon Summary

Based on 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

This message explores five key insights for understanding spiritual gifts, with particular focus on prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, and interpretation of tongues. The central theme emphasizes that spiritual gifts are not trophies to collect or experiences to chase, but manifestations of the Spirit's sovereign grace for building up the body of Christ.

Key Takeaways

1. **The Focus of Gifts:** The Holy Spirit always points to Jesus—not just to admire Him, but to follow Him daily
 2. **The Source of Gifts:** All gifts come from the same God (same Spirit, same Lord, same God)
 3. **The Purpose of Gifts:** Given to each believer for the "profit of all"—to edify, build up, and strengthen the body
 4. **The Variety of Gifts:** Different gifts serve different functions, all working together for God's purposes
 5. **The Distribution of Gifts:** The Spirit distributes gifts "as He wills" according to what each person needs
-

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 together.** What stands out to you about the repetition of "same Spirit," "same Lord," and "same God"? Why do you think Paul emphasizes this?
2. The pastor defined prophecy as "when the Holy Spirit enables someone to speak truth that builds up, encourages, and strengthens others." How does this definition compare to what you previously thought about prophecy?
3. According to verse 7, spiritual gifts are given "for the profit of all." What does this tell us about the purpose of spiritual gifts? How does this challenge individualistic views of spirituality?

Personal Reflection

4. The sermon mentioned that it's easy to get into a "spiritual rut"—going through the motions on Sunday but living the same old life the rest of the week. Have you experienced this? What helps you break out of that pattern?
5. **Honest moment:** When you think about spiritual gifts, are you more focused on what you can receive or what you can give to build up others? What would need to change in your perspective?
6. The pastor said, "I want to be the guy that when I walk away, people are built up, people are challenged, and people are comforted by my presence." How does this challenge your approach to relationships within the church?

Going Deeper

7. **Read 1 Corinthians 14:3.** Prophecy brings "edification, exhortation, and comfort." Share a time when someone spoke words into your life that accomplished one or more of these purposes. What made those words effective?
8. The sermon emphasized that any spiritual manifestation must align with Scripture. Why is this so important? What dangers exist when we don't test spiritual experiences against God's Word?
9. Discuss this quote from the sermon: "These gifts are not trophies to collect or experiences to chase. They are manifestations of the Spirit's sovereign grace for the building up of the body of Christ." How might this change the way we approach church gatherings and spiritual experiences?

Application

10. Paul tells believers to "desire" the gift of prophecy (1 Cor 14:1). What practical steps can you take to grow in your ability to speak truth that builds up, encourages, and strengthens others?
 11. The pastor challenged: "How many times have I tried to give somebody what I thought they needed when I really needed to be more humble and just listening and focused on the voice of God?" How can you become better at listening to God's voice when ministering to others?
-

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Individual Action:

- Reach out to one person in the church this week that you don't know well. Get to know them on a spiritual level. Ask about their walk with God, their struggles, or how you can pray for them.
- Identify one spiritual gift you believe God has given you. Intentionally use it this week to build up at least one person in the body of Christ.

Group Action:

- As a group, commit to praying for one another throughout the week, specifically asking God to help each person recognize and use their spiritual gifts for the edification of others.

Reflection Exercise

Take 10-15 minutes of quiet time this week to consider these questions:

1. What spiritual gifts do I believe God has given me?
 2. How am I currently using these gifts to build up others?
 3. What distractions or priorities are keeping me from being more effective in serving the body?
 4. What needs to change in my life to make room for Spirit-led ministry to others?
-

Scripture Memory

1 Corinthians 12:7 - "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all."

Prayer Focus

Pray together for:

- Humility to recognize where we've been in a spiritual rut
 - Wisdom to discern how God has gifted us
 - Courage to step out and use our gifts to build up others
 - Anyone in the group who doesn't yet have a relationship with Christ
 - Protection from false teaching and spiritual deception
 - A renewed passion for the body of Christ and its mission
-

Additional Resources

- **Read ahead:** 1 Corinthians 13 (next week's focus on love)
 - **For deeper study:** John 14-16 (Jesus' teaching on the Holy Spirit)
 - **Recommended:** Review Acts 2, 10, and 19 to see biblical examples of tongues in action
-

Closing Thought

"God is not wanting us to just have emotional experiences in the name of Jesus that lead us nowhere. Ultimately these gifts are all about focusing on Christ, beholding the glory of Christ, being transformed by Christ, and not just pledging allegiance with my lips to Jesus as Lord, but living a life that declares that He is my Lord."

How will your life this week declare that Jesus is your Lord?