Home CHURCH

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Part 5 of By My Spirit

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God revealed as the One who gives spiritual gifts through His Spirit to strengthen the Church, serve others, and ultimately bring glory to Jesus.

1. **The Purpose of the Gifts** *(1 Corinthians 12:4–11)*
   - Spiritual gifts are empowerments of the Holy Spirit given to believers for the common good. Though there are many different gifts, they come from the same Spirit and are distributed according to His will.

   Discuss:
   - *Why do you think Paul encourages believers to actively desire spiritual gifts while also calling us to test everything?*
   - *How can we remain both open to the work of the Holy Spirit and discerning about what we experience?*

2. **The Proof of the Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:31–13:2)**
   - The greatest evidence of a Spirit-filled life is not simply the presence of spiritual gifts, but the presence of love. Gifts without love can become empty, self-serving, and disconnected from God's heart.

   Discuss:
   - *How can someone exercise a genuine spiritual gift with the wrong motives?*
   - *How should love shape the way we serve, speak, and minister to others?*

3. **The Proper Use of the Gifts** *(1 Corinthians 14:3, 12, 26, 29, 32–33, 39–40)*
   - Spiritual gifts are meant to build up the Church. They should be tested, exercised with self-control, and used in a way that promotes peace and order.

   Discuss:
   - *How can we test spiritual words and experiences while remaining open to the Holy Spirit?*
   - *What can we learn from Paul's instruction to both earnestly desire spiritual gifts and ensure that everything is done decently and in order?*