

CONSUMER OR CONTRIBUTOR?

Broken Yet Beloved Message Series Week 10

1 Corinthians 12:1-26

November 16, 2025

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How to be part of what the Holy Spirit is doing through CBC:

1. Live from a humility that is rooted in God's grace.

(1 Corinthians 12:1-3)

“...there is no such thing as becoming a Christian by achievement! The fundamental identity of a Christian—defined by the confession of faith “Jesus is Lord”—is not something that can be achieved, earned, or arrived at via self-exertion. The confession of faith can only be made ‘in the Holy Spirit.’ Faith is given; it is a gift. This removes all pride and ego because an individual’s abilities and skills are all gifts.”

Stephen Um, *1 Corinthians*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015, p. 213.

2. Utilize your God-given spiritual gift.

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 18)

“Spiritual gifts, simply put, are supernatural endowments that enable us to carry out God’s work in God’s way. They are provided by the grace of God, and they are powered by the Spirit of God. They truly are supernatural gifts.”

Daniel Akin and James Merritt, *1 Corinthians: Exalting Jesus in 1 Corinthians*, B&H Publishing Group, Brentwood, TN, 2023, p. 240.

“Everyone has received a gift (or gifts) from God...This is a great comfort to anyone who has ever wondered, ‘Am I gifted?’ ‘Do I have anything to contribute?’ ‘What do I have to bring to the community?’ ‘What are my gifts?’ Every single believer has received a gift that is intended to be used ‘for the common good.’...They are not things that one earns, but things that one is.”

Stephen Um, *1 Corinthians*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015, p. 214.

3. Recognize the importance of unity.

(1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 25-26)

4. Don’t minimize your role and giftedness.

(1 Corinthians 12:14-20)

**5. Embrace God's design of interdependence.
(1 Corinthians 12:21-26)**

"The main point that Paul is trying to get across is this: God has designed his church to be a community of 'complementary interdependence.' The church is to be complementary; that is, each member brings something to the table that the others need and is enhanced by interdependence."

Stephen Um, *1 Corinthians*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015, p. 221.

6. Find your worth, value, and significance in Christ, not your gift or role.

Questions for Reflection:

1. Do I know my spiritual gifts, and am I utilizing them?
2. Do I serve from a place of humility that is reflected in dependence on others?
3. Is my worth, value, and significance connected to my ministry or giftedness?