

1 CORINTHIANS

Seeing Life through the Mind of Christ

"Answering the Call: Being Part of God's
Mission"

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4 - 11

1. Three questions to consider about spiritual gifts?

A. What are they? V1

- Gifts from the HS. V11
- To each. V7, Rom 2:11

B. Why given?

- John 14:12 – Christ not physically present.
- 1 Cor 12:27 – works thru believers.
- John 14:16-18 – Helper.
- John 3:16 – God loves.

C. What purpose? Will God's purpose give me purpose? V 12:18, Rev 22:17

2. The blueprint of the HS to reach our world is all encompassing. **Gifts** are how He empowers us for His divine purpose.
 - A. Three different gift-categories (“GSA”):
 1. V4. “*varieties of gifts*,” i.e., spiritual – **not DNA based (talents)**.
 2. V5. “*varieties of service*,” i.e., ministries. **Could be DNA based, talents.** Heart to do...
 3. V6. “*varieties of activities*,” “works,” – when the HS does a specific work in one’s life. **My “story.”**
 - B. Gifts are *diverse*, with a ***divine purpose for the whole***.
 1. The ***whole is greater than the sum of the parts***. V4, 5, 6, 11. No “lone ranger” Christians.















Anything
missing?

3. Does the HS have expectations for believers? Does He make promises when I answer His call?

A. Expected to “*manifest* the Holy Spirit for the *common good*.” 2 Cor 2:14

B. Expected to discover my gifts, to desire more.

- 1 Cor. 12:31 But *earnestly desire* the higher gifts...
- 14:1 Pursue love, and *earnestly desire the spiritual gifts*, ...

C. Expected to *faithfully use* my gifts to build up His church.
Eph 4:11-13. 1 Peter 4:10

D. If we do, the promise of the Holy Spirit is *rewards*.

Expectations of the Holy Spirit.

- 1 Peter 4:10 As *each has received a gift*, use it to serve one another, as *good stewards of God's varied grace*:
11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in *everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ*

The Promise of the HS

- 1 Cor. 3:5-8 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants **through whom** you believed, as the Lord **assigned to each**.⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but **God gave the growth**.⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but **only God who gives the growth**.⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and **each will receive his wages according to his labor**. (ESV)

Primary Spiritual Gifts

NT Reference

Teaching/preaching/prophecy

1 Cor 14:1, Ephesians 4:11

Miracles

1 Corinthians 12:10; Acts 19:11

Faith

1 Corinthians 12:9

Discernment

1 Corinthians 12:10

Giving

Romans 12:8

Leadership

Romans 12:8

Encouragement

Romans 12:8

Wisdom

1 Corinthians 12:8

Evangelism

Ephesians 4:11

Hospitality

Romans 12:13

Next Steps:

1. How might you change your view of yourself so that you are more open to being used by God?
 - Since all believers have been gifted, so have you been gifted. How can you trust God and the gifts he has given you?
 - It is not what you say or do but that you do – we must open our minds and hearts to the many ways that God wants to love the world through his followers.
2. Will you make it a daily habit to thank God for how He has gifted you, even if you don't know what your gifts are?