

20 – SPIRITUAL GIFTS (1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-31A)

I. The Source of Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

A. Paul's Concern (1 Corinthians 12:1)

- Paul did not want them to be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts.

B. Their Prior Condition (1 Corinthians 12:2)

- Paul reminds them of their prior conduct in paganism.

C. The Test (1 Corinthians 12:3)

- No one is led by the Spirit to curse Jesus Christ.
- Only the Spirit leads a person to recognize that Jesus is Lord.

D. Unity in Diversity (1 Corinthians 12:4-6)

- While there is diversity in ministries, gifts and activities, there is only one God.

E. Many Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7-10)

1. The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7)

- Paul states that gifts were given for the benefit of all in the church.
- It must be noted that the gifts are not given for personal benefit.

2. The Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:8-10)

- Paul lists various gifts that were given to the church.

F. The Source of Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:11)

- Paul makes it clear that the gifts were given to the church by the Holy Spirit.

II. The Diversity of Gifts in the Body (1 Corinthians 12:12-26)

A. The Nature of the Body (1 Corinthians 12:12-14)

1. The Unity of Many Members (1 Corinthians 12:12)

- The human body has many members, yet it is one unit.

2. The Unity of the Church (1 Corinthians 12:13-14)

When Church Becomes Messy: First Corinthians

- The Spirit has made many into one, the body of Christ.

B. The Interdependence of the Body (1 Corinthians 12:15-17)

- All members of the human body are necessary for the functioning of the whole.

C. God's Prerogative (1 Corinthians 12:18)

- God has placed each member in the body according to His will.

D. The Need for Diversity (1 Corinthians 12:19-26)

1. The Necessity of Diversity (1 Corinthians 12:19-20)

- It is necessary for the body that each member be different.

2. All Members are Equally Important (1 Corinthians 12:21-24a)

- No member is superior to the other, nor is any inferior.

3. Mutual Dependence (1 Corinthians 12:24b-26)

- When one member of the body is affected, then all members of the body are affected.

III. The Unity of the Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:27-31a)

A. The Principle (1 Corinthians 12:27)

- Each member is a part of the body, yet each is an individual.

B. God's Assignment of the Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:28)

- God is the one who appoints the gifts for the church.

C. The Reality of the Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:29-30)

- Members will not all have the same gifts.

D. The Encouragement (1 Corinthians 12:31a)

- Paul encouraged them to seek spiritual gifts in their lives.