

Gifts of the Spirit  
1 Corinthians 12:1-13

(v.1) “Now concerning what comes from the Spirit: brothers, I do not want you to be unaware.”

God gives gifts us for a purpose, and we only grasp that purpose by stewarding our gifts for the common good.

## I. IMMERSION (v.12-13)

For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also is Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

(v.3) ...No one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

Salvation is all about divine union or Immersion, not moral perfection.

1) This is a baptism of the Spirit.

(v.13) "We are all baptized by the same Spirit..."



Baptism of the Spirit means I belong to His Body; Fullness of the Spirit means my body belongs to Him.”

—Warren Wiersbe

2) This is a baptism into a body of diverse believers.

“We were all baptized by one Spirit into One body.”

“Individualism, at first, only saps the virtues of public life; but in the long run it attacks and destroys all others and is at length absorbed in downright selfishness.”

—Alexis de Tocqueville

God gifts us for a purpose, but we can only fulfill that purpose by rightly stewarding our gifts.

## II. A VISION (v.4-11)

A) What the Gifts are Not

1. Gifts of the Spirit are not the same as Natural Talents (Musical ability, creativity, athletic prowess, computer skills).

**2. The Gifts of the Spirit are not earned**



**3. Gifts of the Spirit are not the same as Fruit of the Spirit**

**B) What The Gifts Are (v.4-7)**

Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different ministries, but the same Lord. And there are different activities, but the same God activates each gift in each person.... (v.11) But one and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as He wills.

Spiritual gifts are differing abilities given by the by the Trinity to each believer to build up the body of Jesus to become more like Jesus for the sake of the world.

1. Spiritual Gifts Are Differing Abilities (v.8-11)

## 1 Corinthians 12:8-11

...To one is given a message of wisdom through the Spirit, to another, a message of knowledge by the same Spirit, 9 to another, faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another, the performing of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, distinguishing between spirits, to another, different kinds of languages, to another, interpretation of languages. 11 But one and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as He wills.

2. Given by the Trinity (v.4-7)

3. To each believer (v.4,7)



4. To build up the body (v.7)

Spiritual gifts are tools to build with rather than toys to play with.

5. To become more like Jesus for the sake of the world

What Happens When We Open Them?

1) It removes passivity.

2) It creates tension.

3) It should remove jealousy, envy pride and power plays.

## A CONFESSION (v.1-3)

Now concerning what comes from the Spirit: brothers, I do not want you to be unaware. 2 You know that when you were pagans, you used to be led off to the idols that could not speak. 3 Therefore I am informing you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.