

Scripture this week:

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Holy Spirit. Big Deal.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Todd Chapman - October 31, 2021

Though ordinarily not the person most focused on in the Trinity, Paul encourages the Corinthians (and us) to recognize and celebrate the indispensable role that the Holy Spirit has in our lives. Having a more thorough appreciation of the Holy Spirit's work empowers us individually to more effectively promote our church family health.

The Holy Spirit empowering our conversions is a big deal.

The Holy Spirit giving us each spiritual gifts is a big deal.

The Holy Spirit being the solitary source of our faith and giftedness is a big deal.

Notes:

Life Group Discussion Questions

Based on 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Reading the Text:

1. In 12:1, what does Paul's introduction of the topic with '*Now concerning...*' tell us? See also 7:1, 7:25, and 8:1.
2. In v. 2, Paul writes '*when you were pagans...*' What does this tell us about the primary or predominant makeup of the church in Corinth?
3. According to v. 3, what has happened in the lives of the Corinthian believers to enable them to declare that Jesus is Lord?
4. What are the common features for the varied gifts listed by Paul in vv. 8-11?

Knowing the Full Picture:

5. Read Luke's account of Jesus' ascension in Acts 1:4-8. How does Jesus describe the impact of the Holy Spirit?

Living It Out:

6. What has been your experience of the power of the Holy Spirit? In conversion? A subsequent, clear demonstration? In your daily life of faith?
7. Paul says '*to each is given a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*' Do you believe it? How do you see it to be true in the Church? How do you see it to be true in yourself?
8. What do you believe are the gifts God has given you?