

3D: DEVELOP 3

Spiritual Gifts and Experiences

Take time to open in prayer with the anticipation and the expectation of the Holy Spirit revealing His will through His word.

Recap

Take time with your group to recap the message you heard. What was the message about? Did you have any “Ah-Ha” moments (did you feel convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon)? Encourage each other to express any questions regarding the message and try to Biblically address them throughout the study. Keep the focus on the contents of the message.

Holy Scripture:

I Corinthians 12:4-10, 14-27

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.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If

the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Diving Deeper

In this study, the understanding of the text drives the discussion more than most studies. Therefore, if more questions arise from the text, please share with the group.

What is the most common body ache or pain that you deal with?

How does this affect your day-to-day life? What do you do to compensate for it?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-10

These verses compare to our physical bodies and set out a basic rule for consideration of all spiritual gifts—namely, that all Christians share the common profession of faith: Jesus is Lord. On this foundation, Paul listed various gifts and explained their source.

Where do a person’s spiritual gifts come from, according to verses 4-6?

What do you make of the diversity of gifts and what they are, in verses 8-10?

Is this list exhaustive?

Paul’s purpose in verses 8-10 was not to detail a complete list of all possible spiritual gifts, but rather to emphasize the unity of the Spirit amid the marvelous variety of gifts. The one Holy Spirit is active in many ways through the devoted service of God’s people.

Why is it important for believers to know which spiritual gifts they have?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:14-20

Where might our church be if each individual member had the same gift or tried to function in the same role?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:21-27

How does Paul emphasize the importance of community by describing the church as a body?

Why is it important to suffer with someone in the body who suffers and to rejoice with those who are honored?

What are some practical ways that we can better embrace those who are suffering as well as those who are being honored within our church body?

Bonus questions about our Experiences, if you have time to discuss.

Have you found yourself asking questions to God about experiences in your life, and later discovered how God used it? If so, Explain.

What are experiences that have shaped who you are and what you do?

Prayer

Take this time for you or someone in the group to pray about what you have studied and praise God for what He has graciously revealed to you. Prayer requests are welcomed and encouraged. Ask God to keep your eyes on Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

God Bless