

Pastor Dave Patterson
1 CORINTHIANS
Part 13: You, My Friend, Have a Gift!

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

The operation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are what we long for. We eagerly desire these things for the strengthening of the church and the extension of God's Kingdom. Our supernatural God longs to make himself known in the natural world!

[1 Corinthians 14.1]

*Follow the way of love and **eagerly desire the gifts of the Spirit.***

[John 15.26]

*I will send you the Spirit who comes from the Father and shows what is true. **The Spirit will help you and will tell you about me.***

You were wired for more; you were wired for the supernatural.

[1 Corinthians 12.1]

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, **I do not want you to be ignorant** (uninformed, confused, or without knowledge)*

[Ephesians 4.30, AMP]

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, do not offend or vex or sadden Him.

[1 Thessalonians 5.19-20]

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt (to belittle or diminish in value).

[1 Thessalonians 5.19-20, NCV]

Do not hold back the work of the Holy Spirit.

[1 Corinthians 5.19-20, NIRV]

Do not put out the Holy Spirit's fire.

[1 Corinthians 1.7]

*Now **you have every spiritual gift** you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. **He will keep you strong to the end** so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns.*

Truths about the Gifts of the Spirit:

1. **THE GIFTS ARE FOR TODAY:** *We will not put out the Holy Spirit's fire by neglecting them!*

"Charisma is the enablement of the Holy Spirit in the life of any believer to exercise a grace gift for the edification of others."

[1 Corinthians 12.4-11]

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same **Spirit distributes them**. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.*

2. Every believer has been gifted.

[1 Corinthians 12.7, NLT]

*A spiritual gift is **given to each of us** so we can help each other.*

[1 Corinthians 12.11]

*All these gifts are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He distributes them to each one, **just as he determines**.*

Discover the God purpose within you, for which you have been gifted by The Holy Spirit!

3. Our gifts develop when we serve the Body.

[1 Peter 4.10]

*Each of you should **use whatever gift you have received to serve others**, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

[1 Corinthians 12.12-14]

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. Yes, the body has many different parts...

4. The increase of the Holy Spirit's activity comes through pursuit and positioning.

[1 Corinthians 14.1]

Eagerly desire the gifts of the Spirit.

[1 Corinthians 12.31]

*So you should **earnestly desire** the most helpful (best) gifts.*

[2 Timothy 1.6]

*This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you **when I laid my hands on you.***

[Romans 1.11]

*I long to see you so **that I may impart to you** some spiritual gift to make you strong...*

Diversity with unity brings the dynamic power that the Body of Christ, and the world at large, need.

5. The church thrives when we discover, develop, and deploy our gifts!

We need your gift working because it just might be the best gift needed in any given situation!

[1 Corinthians 12.27, AMP]

Now you [collectively] are Christ's body and [individually] you are members of it, each part distinct [each with his own place and function].

[1 Corinthians 12.7]

*Now to each one **the manifestation of the Spirit** is given for the good of others.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you ever longed for something greater or supernatural to help others? What interests showed that as a child and as an adult?**
- 2. What are some needs people are coming to church looking to fulfill, or even specifically some supernatural elements people are hoping to witness or experience?**
- 3. Why do you think people have a tendency to base their theology of God based on their recent experience? How does Scripture serve as an accurate lens for theology?**
- 4. How do our gifts develop in community (the Body of Christ), and not in isolation?**
- 5. What dysfunction happens to the church when one part of the Body ceases to function? What are some reasons that we sometimes discriminate?**
- 6. What role does proximity have on the release of gifts and in the operation of them?**
- 7. Pray for dormant gifts to arise and gifts in operation to grow and become more effective in your group and in the church at large.**