

All the Spiritual Gifts are important to God's purposes for our lives as the Body of Christ! We are ineffective and so is our use of spiritual gifts if we do not love one another and be unified together as the diverse individuals God has called together as members of His Body. We cannot fulfill God's Plan for our lives, or for the life of the Church, if we do not use the Spiritual Gifts in love for the sake of the love! In Christ, we are better together!

Are you ready to learn more about the Spiritual Gifts, so that we can better support one another in God's call of MINISTRY?

Come back next week for training #3 of this special 6-week discipleship training series called, "The Gift!" to learn more about how you have been 'Gifted for the Harvest'. Are you ready to take the next step in your journey? Are you ready to see how God is calling you to a great purpose? Are you ready to learn your spiritual gifts and be empowered to use them? Join with us and let's step out in faith together.



First Baptist Church
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

709 S. Memorial Drive, New Castle, IN 47362
Phone: 765.529.2687 | FAX: 765.529.0078
www.newcastlefbc.org

"Intentionally following Jesus Christ by making disciples"

Sermon Notes

"The Gift is all about Love!"

Discipleship Training Series: "The Gift: You are Gifted for the Harvest!" [Training #2 of 6]

Pastor Jerry Ingalls

September 28, 2014

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-7, 14-27 **New American Standard Bible (NASB)**

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. ... ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. ⁶ There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. ⁷ But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ... ¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵ If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. ¹⁹ If they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now there are many members, but one body. ²¹ And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; ²³ and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable, ²⁴ whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, ²⁵ so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷ Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

WE ARE MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST!

"Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it."

- 1 Corinthians 12:27.

"So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body."

- Ephesians 5:28-30

"Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift."

- Ephesians 4:1-7

Having received the Gift of Salvation through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you are now a member of God's Church—the Body of Christ! The Spiritual Gifts equip the Body of Christ to fulfill God's Mission—to seek and save the lost.

EVERY MEMBER OF THE BODY OF CHRIST IS GIVEN SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO EQUIP OUR CALL TO MINISTRY!

"The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. **As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.** Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; **so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ**, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

- 1 Peter 4:7-11

"For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. If they were all one member, where would the body be? But now there are many members, but one body." - 1 Corinthians 12:14-20

*Spiritual Gifts are given to equip us with our **MINISTRY** as the Body of Christ! In fact, the **MINISTRY** of the individual members of the Body of Christ is how the Mission of God is fulfilled. The **WE** is greater than the **ME**, but every individual **ME** is necessary for the **WE** to successfully fulfill God's purposes for the Church. Your **MINISTRY** Matters!*

THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE ONLY EFFECTIVE WHEN WE USE THEM IN LOVE FOR THE SAKE OF LOVE!

"For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness." - Romans 12:4-8

"**But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.** If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing." - 1 Corinthians 12:28—13:3