

Connect

What are some gifts you have received that have “kept on giving?”

Verses - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (CSB)

Read aloud:

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts: brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be unaware. 2 You know that when you were pagans, you used to be enticed and led astray by mute idols. 3 Therefore I want you to know 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. 4 Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are different activities, but the same God works all of them in each person. 7 A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good: 8 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 tongues, to another, interpretation of tongues. 11 One and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as he wills.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. What is Paul’s intent according to v.1?

2. What could Paul be saying about the people without the Spirit in verse 3 in relation to the mute idols in verse 2? What's the connection and warning?

3. What was God’s purpose in giving the gifts? (v.7) How would analyzing the differences in vv.5-6 teach us about the main purpose (v.7) of the gifts for the church?

Share

Discuss 1:
Paul says that a "manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good." How did the Corinthians misunderstand this purpose of spiritual gifts, and what is the biblical understanding?

Discuss 2:
What would you use to explain how the ministry of the church works to others? What would you compare the church to, to show how different people using different gifts work together as one for a common purpose?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.