

The Body of Christ, Spiritual Gifts, and Spiritual Maturity, Part 3
“One Spirit Working in All of Us!”
1 Corinthians 12:7-11

The goodness and wisdom of God is displayed in the gifting of His people.

1. God’s Goodness and Wisdom seen in *the Giving* of these Gifts v. 7

(1) In His gifts to each one of us! *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all”*

-1- Every gift is indeed a gift!

-2- In the exercise of each particular gift there is a manifestation of the Spirit

(2) In His purpose to benefit all: His gift to one is a gift to all! *“given to each one for the profit of all”*

2. God’s Goodness and Wisdom seen in *the Array* of Gifts vv. 8-10

(1) He has authored this diversity among us *“for to one is given...to another (is given) ...to another (is given)...”*

(2) Many needs are met! Many blessings are provided!

-1- The lists of gifts – including this one – are Selective and Representative – not exhaustive!

“the word of wisdom”

“the word of knowledge”

“faith”

“gifts of healings”

“the working of miracles”

“prophecy”

“discerning of spirits”

“varieties of tongues”

“the interpretation of tongues”

-2- Suggested Categories:

“Word gifts”

“Faith gifts”

Or: “Intellectual gifts”

“Faith gifts”

“Revelatory gifts”

-3- But there is also apparent “overlap” throughout; there are not precise separations.

3. God’s Goodness and Wisdom seen in *His design for Unity* in these gifts. v. 11

(1) The same Spirit is working in and through all of the gifts *“But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”*

- Note vv. 8-10 Each gift given *“through the same Spirit...by the same Spirit...by the same Spirit”*

(2) The same Spirit is the One who sovereignly distributed the gifts.

- We do not have a choice in how we are gifted! This is left to God in His wisdom!

-This should humble all of us and have a unifying effect.

cf. “What do you have that you have not received?”

- I should be able to rejoice in those gifts I see in my brother or sister.

Further Application

Some guidelines How can I discern my gift?

1. By a readiness to serve my brothers and sisters in any way I can!
2. By considering that service in which I find particular joy and delight.
3. By considering my natural giftedness

Two cautions:

1. Beware of “pigeon-holing”
 - The NT lists are not exhaustive!
 - There is overlap between some gifts and there can be variations or shades of a particular gift
2. Beware of confining gifts and their exercise within the walls of the church