

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Discover. Pursue. Engage.

→ **Spiritual Gifts, Lesson 2** - 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If 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. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷If 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? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹The 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." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and 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, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Unity in Diversity

What have you applied in your life from last weeks study?

What's your natural tendency – to seek unity or diversity and how does that play out?

Read 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31

Read verse 13" ...For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - all were made to drink of one Spirit."

How do you define the word unity?

What is an image or a story of unity in your life?

What makes unity so difficult to achieve?

What makes unity so important to experience?

In this text, Paul is making the case that our unity originates from God.
What is the example or model of unity that Paul cites in verse 12?

Why is Christ such a powerful example of unity?

What is the action that makes us one in the body of Christ in verse 13?

How are we doing at unity in our church? In your small group? In your personal life?

Diversity...

Read verse 12 "...For just as the body is one and has many members, and all of the members of the body, though many are, so it is with Christ."

Define the word diversity.

The body serves as a metaphor in the passage for the kind of diversity that we are called to achieve in the Church...why do you think Paul chose this metaphor of the body?

What does the physical body illustrate to us about the way we are to cooperate with each other?

What does it communicate regarding our need for each other?

What does it reveal about our mutual dependence upon each other?

What is one way we can celebrate our diversity in the church?

A Community that is One with Many

Share one thing you think would move our community closer to the ideal mentioned in I Corinthians 12.

Close in prayer – praying for unity in diversity.



Miss this message? Listen to it online at parkcommunitychurch.org and download additional small group studies to go along with the O What a Tangled Web message series.

PARK
COMMUNITY CHURCH

© 2009 Park Community Church | 1001 N Crosby St | Chicago, IL 60610
parkcommunitychurch.org