**1 Corinthians 12**

*He discusses spiritual gifts, and indicates that every person has a purpose and equal value to the body of Christ. Though the gifts are diverse, there is only* “one body.” *(Synopsis by Stan Cox)*

1. Inquiry from Corinthians **(7:1-16:4)** – *“Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me:”* **(7:1)**.
   1. Conduct in worship assembly **(11:2-14:40)**
2. Spiritual Gifts **(12:1-14:40)**.
   * + 1. Necessary knowledge concerning spiritual gifts **(v. 1-3).**
          1. Paul does not want them to be ignorant as when they were Gentiles **(v. 1-2).**
          2. General principles **(v. 3):**

No one who calls Jesus accursed has the Spirit **(v. 3a).**

No one can say Jesus is Lord without the Spirit **(v. 3b).**

* + - 1. Diversity of gifts, but unity in origin and purpose **(v. 4-11).**
         1. Diverse gifts, but same Spirit **(v. 4).**

Just as there are differing ministries, but same Lord **(v. 5).**

Just as there are diverse activities, but same God who works **(v. 6).**

* + - * 1. The Spirit gives these gifts for the profit of all **(v. 7).**
        2. Diverse gifts, but same Spirit (2) **(v. 8-10).**

Wisdom; word of knowledge **(v. 8).**

Faith; gifts of healings **(v. 9).**

Working of miracles; prophecy; discerning of spirits; tongues; interpretation of tongues **(v. 10).**

* + - * 1. The same Spirit works in each, and distributes as He wills **(v. 11).**
      1. The need for a diversity of gifts, and for unity **(v. 12-31).**
         1. Illustrated by the figure of the body **(v. 12-26).**

Christ is like the body with many members **(v. 12).**

Same baptism, and Spirit despite difference in people **(v. 13).**

The body is many members **(v. 14).**

Body illustration explained **(v. 15-26):**

None can say they are unimportant **(v. 15-19).**

Foot/hand, ear/eye **(v. 15-17).**

God has set the members in the body as He pleased **(v. 18-19).**

None can say another is unimportant **(v. 20-26).**

Many members, one body **(v. 20).**

Eye/hand, head/feet **(v. 21).**

Weaker, and less honorable members given honor **(v. 22-24).**

That there be no schism, but all care for one another **(v. 25-26).**

* + - * 1. Summary and application **(v. 27-31).**

Body of Christ, members individually **(v. 27).**

Various appointed functions in the church **(v. 28).**

Not all have the same function **(v. 29-30).**

The best gifts should be desired. Paul will show a more excellent way **(v. 31).**

**Questions**

1. What purpose do the spiritual gifts serve **(v. 7)?**
2. What is the origin of each spiritual gift **(v. 4-11)?**

**Other Questions to Consider**

1. Some in the denominations take the baptism of **verse 13** to be the Holy Spirit baptism. Is this true? If not, why not, and to which baptism does Paul refer?
2. How did the Corinthians receive these spiritual gifts if not by the baptism of the Holy Spirit **(cf. 1:7; Acts 8:14-19)?**