

# GIFTED

Our spiritual life is made possible through the work of the Holy Spirit within us. The Spirit provides spiritual fruit (Galatians 5:22), which are common to all Christians. The Spirit also bears gifts, which enable us to grow to full maturity and participate in the building up of God's kingdom.



## **1 Corinthians 12:12-18** **One Body, Many Members**

**12** For 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. **13** For 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. **14** For the body does not consist of one member but of many. **15** If 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. **16** And 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. **17** If 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? **18** But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

## OBSERVATIONS

### **One Holy Spirit**

We begin our spiritual life through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit which is at work in every believer. This spiritual unity creates a beautiful harmony among all those who follow Jesus Christ.

### **Self-Doubt**

Even the most devoted Christian can doubt whether or not their gifts are of value. If we don't realize that the Spirit gives different gifts to different people, we can begin to doubt the validity of our own gifts.

### **God's Arrangement**

God is the giver of all Spiritual gifts, and God knows what gifts he wants to give to what people. God dispenses his gifts so that each person has the opportunity of doing something valuable in his kingdom.

## APPLICATION *for Daily Living*

There are some simple ways we can discover our spiritual gifts.

1. **We want to please Christ and build his kingdom.**
2. **They will spark our creativity**
3. **We will experience joy in using them.**
4. **We will bring blessing to others.**
5. **Other people will encourage us.**

So in the church, we should always be on the lookout for someone who has a spiritual gift and offer our encouragement.

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## SCRIPTURE *for further Study*

Paul uses the illustration of the body elsewhere to describe spiritual gifts. Read **Romans 12:1-8** and see the parallels to 1 Corinthians 12.

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## QUESTIONS *for discussion*

Do you consider yourself more of a leader or a follower?

What spiritual gift would you aspire to?

Have you ever encouraged someone who seemed to be gifted?



**Your Notes** *what God is saying to you:*

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