

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 12:1-13

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT? – PART 3

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Development, Church, Gifts, Unity, Growth

Previously: Verses 1-6 “WHAT MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?”

Today: Verses 7-11 “WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?”

Week 3: Verses 12-13 “WHEN IS A CHURCH RELEVANT?”

1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Now concerning **spiritual gifts**, brethren, I do not want you to be **ignorant**: :2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. :3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the **Spirit of God** calls **Jesus accursed**, and no one can say that **Jesus is Lord** except by the **Holy Spirit**. :4 There are **diversities** of **gifts**, but the same **Spirit**. :5 There are **differences** of **ministries**, but the same **Lord**. :6 And there are **diversities** of **activities**, but it is the same **God** Who works all in all. :7 **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all**: :8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the **Spirit**, to another the word of knowledge through the same **Spirit**, :9 to another faith by the same **Spirit**, to another gifts of healings by the same **Spirit**, :10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another **different** kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. :11 **But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills**. :12 For as the **body is one** and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is **Christ**. :13 For by one **Spirit** we were all **baptized into one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to **drink** into one **Spirit**.

The Bible Says In 1 Corinthians 12:1

Now concerning **spiritual gifts**, brethren, I do not want you to be **ignorant**:
(*uninformed, uneducated, without knowledge*)

The Bible Says In 1 Corinthians 12:7

But the **manifestation** of the Spirit is given to **each one for the profit of all**:

The Bible Says In 1 Corinthians 12:11

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually as He wills**.

"To each one" is given **a manifestation of the Spirit** so that all these are inspired by the Holy Spirit Himself, who appropriates to each one individually as He determines for a local church." In other words, no one is left out. If you are a Christian you can never say that you were behind the door when the gifts were given out. You have one, at least one, probably more,

Ephesians 4:12-13

for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **:13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

So awesome is this God-Ordained **Appropriation of Gifts**, for the operation of a **relevant church**, that God has **an infinite variety of combinations** of these gifts to give and He decides on one combination just to suit you and your faith and your calling and His plan using your personality, and He puts you right where He wants you to use that Gifting, not just for you and the church among you, but out in the world as well.

When Jesus Christ came to earth, He came at a time when there were great hostilities against anyone that threatened the official religion of the Roman Empire, "Emperor Worship." Rome demanded to hear that "Caesar is Lord" but the Christians knew better. How is it that Christianity exploded across the world during such a difficult time? Because Jesus Christ did not leave us powerless.

The Bible Says In Luke 10:2-3

Then He said to them, "The harvest truly *is* great, but the laborers *are* few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. **:3** Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.

The Bible Says In John 16:7,13-14

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you... **:13** However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. **:14** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.

The Bible Says In John 14:16-18

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever - **:17** the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. **:18** I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

The Bible Says In Acts 1:6-8

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" :7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. :8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The Christian and The Church

Have all the available power that is needed to live a life for God.
- even in these darkening days!

What a Church Jesus Has Created.

She's dressed for her **wedding**. She wears **army** boots and she's **powered by God** Himself. It's no wonder why Jesus said:

Matthew 16:18

"...I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

BECOMING A TRUE BELIEVER IN A LOST WORLD!

1.) You and the Holy Spirit make a church relevant v.7-11

1a.) You do if you have the gift of wisdom v.8

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

:8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,



the word of wisdom *sofi÷a sophia*, *sof-ee'-ah*; from 4680; divine, unnatural wisdom not of human origins. The revelation or infusion of Godly wisdom that results in solutions.

Wisdom is the "application" or the "bringing of" God's Knowledge to light upon an issue or a challenge confronting the believer, in the church, in the family, in the business, in the issues, in the state, in the nation...

There is a General Wisdom Available - *this is not it*

James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

We've all been in meetings or standing over a problem where it is clear that none of us have the answer. Then suddenly someone stands up and says, "Well, it seems to me that this word, or this passage, applies here, and if we will do this and this and this, it will all work out." And everybody says, "Of course! Why didn't we see that?"

Israel's King Solomon was given Wisdom in an unusual dose

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1b.) You do if you have the gift of knowledge

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

:9 to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,



the word of knowledge: gnwðsiß **gnosis**, *gno'-sis*; the knowing or having knowledge from God. To factually know something that is not humanly available. Science.

“the word of”

This means that God has given the supernatural ability to give out and to cause others to understand things otherwise mysterious or hard. To unlock to the sight.

The Bible Says In Matthew 16:15-17

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” :16 Simon Peter answered and said, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”** :17 Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, **but My Father who is in heaven.**

What is the “Word of Knowledge?”

It’s an unnatural, supernatural **ability to determine the Will of God** from the Scriptures. It is the supernatural ability to go through the Bible and to see what’s there and to bring it forth in an understandable, systematic way so that others will understand more clearly.

(in a word = supernatural insight in how to apply the wisdom given)

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

“WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?”

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1c.) You do if you have the gift of faith

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:9 to another faith by the same **Spirit**,



faith: pi÷stiß pistis, *pis´-tis*; from 3982; persuasion, conviction, special reliance upon God. Elevated faith to display through danger, suffering, evil, challenges, hardship. A profound faith which enables someone to endure otherwise impossible situations.

A “Supercharged Faithfulness”

Matthew 14:27-29

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.” :28 And Peter answered Him and said, “**Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.**” :29 So He said, “Come.” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1d.) You do if you have the gift of healings

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:9 to another gifts of healings by the same **Spirit**,



gifts of healings: iḡama iama, ee´-am-ah; from 2390; to cure. To present life again. To restore to life and to normal. (dead)

The Bible Says In Matthew 10:7-8

Jesus said to them; “And as you go, preach, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ :8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

The Bible Says In Acts 9:40

When Peter put them all out of the room, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body (the dead) he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

So how do I know if I have it? Where do I use it?

You will be prompted by an unusual compassion for a person.
It will be a very strong “draw” to go and pray for them “believing”

Mark 1:39-42

And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons. :40 Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.” :41 Then Jesus was **moved with compassion**, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” :42 As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1e.) You do if you have the gift of miracles

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:10 to another the working of miracles,



the working of miracles: du/namiß dunamis, doo'-nam-is; from 1410; (all in the constructive sense) meaning - **unnatural force. Unnatural power. Unnatural ability, unnatural work. Unnatural violence.**

The Bible Says In Matthew 11:12

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers **violence**, (-) but the **violent** (+) take it by **force**.

Aggressive and evil attacks will come against the work of the Kingdom, but the work of the Kingdom will be the thing that Advances.

Missionary Ventures *but not limited to*

Acts 19:10-12

And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. :11 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, :12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

So how do I know if I have it?

Where do I use it?

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1f.) You do if you have the gift of prophecy

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:10 to another prophecy,



prophecy: *profheteia*, *prof-ay-ti'-ah*; from 4396 having ability to both proclaim something that comes to pass in honor of God and the ability to put forth or to present, to proclaim a revelation from God.

< not a palm reader or a fortune teller or a new year's prediction >

Acts 2:14-16

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.
:15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day.
:16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

The Bible Says In Acts 27:21

Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. **:22** And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. **:23** For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, **:24** saying, "Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.'

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT? YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1g.) You do if you have the gift of discernment

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:10 to another discerning of spirits,



discerning of spirits: *diakrino*, *dee-ak-ree'-no*; to hesitate, to sense the need to withdraw, to discriminate against, to doubt or waver.

A supernatural ability to see behind the mask of an individual.

The Bible Says In Acts 5:1-3

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. :2 And he kept back *part* of the proceeds, his wife also being aware *of it*, and brought a certain part and laid *it* at the apostles' feet. :3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT?

YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1h.) You do if you have the gift of tongues

But the **manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**

:10 to another different kinds of tongues,



tongues: glwðssa glossa, *gloce-sah*˘; An unacquired language. A language spoken by someone who doesn't know the language he is speaking..

A greatly misunderstood gift. A much abused gift – *but a gift nonetheless.*

This gift seems to be one that diminishes over time **as the Bible is produced in more and more languages.** In some remote regions of the world, this gift provokes people to consider Christ.

Case in Point

The Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem

The Bible Says In Acts 2:1-12

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. :2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. :3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. :4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. :5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. :6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were

confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. :7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, “Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? :8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? :9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, :10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, :11 Cretans and Arabs - **we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.**” :12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?”

Yes - What Does This Mean?

Ancient Israel had rebelled against the LORD and so in an act of judgment, the LORD sent the Assyrian army as an invading force to humble Israel – the odd and foreign language the Assyrian’s spoke was a sign to unfaithful, unbelieving Jews of God’s coming judgment (**Isaiah 28:11-12**), So also is tongues (foreign languages) to an unfaithful, unbelieving world. On the day of Pentecost, tongues were a testimony to the truth of Jesus Christ and a warning to those who reject His Gospel.

The Bible Says In Acts 2:11
“...we hear them speaking in our own tongues
the wonderful works of God.”

Here in Acts 2 the tongues and the interpretation of those tongues gave praise and honor to God.

**So how do I know if I have it?
Where do I use it?**

WHO MAKES A CHURCH RELEVANT? YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKE A CHURCH RELEVANT

1i.) You do if you have the gift of interpretation of tongues

**But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to
each one for the profit of all:**

:10 to another the interpretation of tongues.



interpretation of tongues: eJrmhnei÷a **hermeneia**, *her-may-ni'-ah*; to tell it or to make it known. To bring others into the hearing of in a foreign or unfamiliar setting.

We will get into the details and applications of these more in chapter 14.

:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

Let's Pray to receive the gift or gifts that the Holy Spirit has prepared for you.

So how do I know if I have it? Where do I use it?

**“When you come here, are you coming to the church
or are you coming to be the church?”**

if you're coming to the church then you will want to watch the effects of the church.
But if you're coming to be the church – you will experience church.

End of Study

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