

The Body of Christ - 1 Corinthians 12

1. What does Paul want the Corinthian Christians to know about spiritual gifts, v. 1? _____
2. Paul writes to people of Corinth who used to be pagan non-Christian Gentiles who worshiped idols, v. 2? Why did they stop worshiping idols? _____
3. Pagans called Jesus accursed. Paul wants people to know that the Holy Spirit never leads anyone to call Jesus accursed, v. 3. What other source might call Jesus accursed? _____
4. The Corinthian church was the most carnal ungodly and backslidden church in the New Testament. They got saved out of rude crude pagan religions and it was hard for them to quit their pagan practices. Some of them, even after they got saved, were given to ecstasies which were influenced by demons. They thought they were hearing from God but what they spoke or prophesied came from demons or the devil. They were cursing Jesus instead of worshiping Him. Paul corrects their foolishness in v. 3.
5. Are there many kinds of spiritual gifts or only one kind of spiritual gift, v. 4?
6. Do all of us need to have the same spiritual gifts? _____
7. Do all our spiritual gifts come from the Holy Spirit, v. 4? _____
8. Does God have good reasons for giving us different ministries in the body of Christ, v. 5?
9. Is it okay for us to exercise our different gifts as long as we follow God's leading and do it His way, v. 6? _____
10. Who gives us our spiritual gifts and and teaches us how to use them to glorify God, v. 7? _____
11. Please list some of the gifts of the Spirit, vs. 8-10? Can there be other spiritual gifts besides those listed in 1 Corinthians? _____

12. **Word of wisdom** - Word refers to a speaking gift; wisdom indicates someone who can understand God's word and His will and apply that understanding to life.
13. **Word of knowledge** - This may have been revelatory in the first century, before the New Testament was completed. Today a word of knowledge indicates ability to teach Bible doctrine, to explain the Bible in a way that makes it understandable because the Holy Spirit has illumined the understanding of the preacher or teacher.
14. **Faith** - this is not saving faith. Instead, it is faith in difficult circumstances which prevails in prayer until God answers. It is tougher stronger faith as a gift from God, beyond saving faith that brings salvation.
15. **Healings** - this was a temporary sign gift used by Christ, Matt 8:16-17, the apostles, Matt 10:1, the seventy disciples, Luke 10:1, and a few associates of the apostles like Philip, Acts 8:5-7. Sign gifts are also associated with the apostles in 2 Cor 12:12 and the sign gifts died out when the apostles died.
16. **Miracles** - these were temporary sign gifts to authenticate the message of the apostles until the New Testament was completed. By definition, a miracle was a divine act contrary to nature, accomplished by God's power, to encourage people to believe God message and messenger, Acts 2:22.
17. **Prophecy** - this means proclaiming, not foretelling. The connotation of foretelling was wrongly added sometime in the Middle Ages. Since the Bible was completed around AD 98, prophecy has not been a means of new revelation from God. Instead, prophecy now means proclaiming what has already been revealed in the Bible.
18. **Discerning of spirits** - Satan is the great deceiver, John 8:44, and his demons often counterfeit truth and try to fool people that their demonic message is from God. That's why you should read your Bible and KNOW what the Bible says in context. If you don't read your Bible, you will fall for all kinds of false teaching and mess up your Christian life, Acts 17:11.
19. **Tongues and interpretation** - these were temporary sign gifts, the ability to speak a foreign language one had not previously learned. The gift of tongues is only utilized three times in the Bible, Act 2, Acts 10, Acts 19. The church at Corinth was misusing tongues. Once the New Testament was

completed around AD 98, the gift of tongues faded away because the NT was a much better persuader than speaking in tongues.

20. **One and the same Spirit** - this emphasizes that gifts come from the Holy Spirit. They are not necessarily to be sought since the Holy Spirit gives them as He sees fit, v. 11.
21. The body of Christ is like the human body, v. 12. How many bodies of Christ are there? _____
22. Is being baptized by the Holy Spirit different than being baptized in water, v. 13? _____
23. Being spiritually baptized by the Holy Spirit puts you into the body of Christ, v. 13.
24. That means that, spiritually speaking, you are now seated in heavenly places IN Christ Jesus, Ephesians 2:6. Do you understand this?

25. In vs. 14-17, Paul analogizes the human body with the body of Christ. He points out that, by God's plan, we have different gifts and different purposes but we are supposed to work together as an organic whole, just like our body works. Don't try to be a Lone Ranger Christian.
26. Why does God give us spiritual gifts?
27. Does the Bible say all Christians should speak in tongues? _____
28. Who decides which Christian gets which gifts? v. 11.
29. Is being baptized by the Spirit the same as water baptism, v. 13?

30. Who arranged the parts of the body of Christ, v. 18? _____
31. Why is it important for every Christian to read the entire New Testament and then keep reading it again and again? _____

32. Which spiritual gifts, if any, can we do without, v. 21? _____
33. Who are we denying if we say some parts of the body of Christ are not important? _____
34. Are all parts of the body of Christ necessary, v. 22? _____
35. Who put the body of Christ together, v. 24? _____
36. Which parts of the body of Christ does God honor, v. 24? _____
37. Does God want those of us in the body of Christ to be fighting each other or to be loving and caring for each other, v. 25? _____
38. Should we care when our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ hurt or suffer, v. 26? _____
39. How can we help others in the body of Christ when they hurt or suffer?

40. List some of the offices in the body of Christ, v. 28.
41. Is everyone an apostle, v. 29? _____
42. Is everyone a prophet, v. 29? _____
43. Is everyone a teacher, v. 29? _____
44. Do all speak with tongues, v. 30? _____
45. We have looked at some wonderful gifts from God but is there a more excellent way than these gifts, 13:1ff.?
46. In 1 Corinthians 13, charity or love in action is God's more excellent way and all of us can model love in action, serving others, in our lives because it isn't a special gift from God.
47. Discuss ways that each of you can model charity or love in action to minister the love of Jesus to other members of the body of Christ.