

**Be Reformed** – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

**Be Charismatic** – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

**Be Community** – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

**Be Missional** – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

## 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-31

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2 You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another

prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And 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. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

## Study Guide 18 September 2011 The Purpose of the Spiritual Gifts



### Summary

In this passage Paul explains about spiritual gifts. He mentions that he doesn't want people to be ignorant about them, that there are diversities of gifts but one God that they come from and point to, and that all these gifts must be for the common good.

After listing the spiritual gifts, he again affirms that the body is diverse but works together as one for its common good. We trust that we will walk away from this preaching with a clear understanding of what the spiritual gifts are and what their ultimate purpose is.

### Key points

The spiritual gifts are for the edification – building up – of the body of believers.

### Questions

- >>What did I know about spiritual gifts before this sermon? What have I learnt that is new?
- >>How do the spiritual gifts show me what God is concerned about?
- >>What does this passage reveal about myself?
- >>How do the spiritual gifts apply to me?
- >>What needs to change about how we think about the spiritual gifts?

### Final thoughts

We need to learn what God gave us spiritual gifts for in order to use them in a way that pleases Him.