**Spiritual Gifts** (Lesson 1)

*(What Are Spiritual Gifts) 1 Corinthians 12*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

READ: 1 Corinthians 12

1. What do these verses tell you about how you would know that something is said to be from God is really genuine (vv.1-3)?
2. What is your personal response to the statement that “each one” is given a manifestation of the Spirit (v.7)?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-31. Paul’s concern is not just unity but diversity in the family of God. Trace the argument Paul uses in the previous section and this one to emphasize the need for many diverse expressions of the Spirit in the life of the church.
4. The Corinthians apparently put the highest priority on one or two gifts. How would the church look if all the members had the same gift or if they prized one gift over all the others?

1. In what ways is Paul’s argument a solution for our personal feelings of inferiority or superiorty in the body of Christ (vv.22-26)?
2. Describe in your own words how each one of the gifts Paul lists here might be manifested (vv.8-11, 28-30).

Although Paul does not intend this to be a complete list of gifts, which of these have you seen at work in your own church, fellowship or family?

1. How in your own experience has exercising spiritual gifts served “the common good” (v.7) and prevented (rather than caused) “discord in the body” (v.25)?

What attitudes and actions would lead to disunity and schism?

1. What comfort do you gain from knowing that it is God who gives the gifts (v.11) and who “combines the members” of the body (v.24)?
2. What have you learned about the character and purpose of spiritual gifts?
3. What challenge do you have from the exhortation to “desire the greater gifts” (v.31)?

*Ask God to show you how to serve others in the body even if you cannot “name” the spiritual gift he has given you*.

***Now or Later***

Study the headship of Jesus in the Body in the following scriptures: Acts 4:11; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18; 1 Peter 2:7. Then study how Jesus apportions the gifts through the Spirit according to his own purposes; Acts 2:4; 3:16; 11:17; 1 Corinthians 3:5; 12:7-8, 24; Ephesians 3:2, 8; 4:7-8, 11; 1 Peter 4:10.

***NEXT LESSON***:

**Spiritual Gifts**

***Equipping the Saints for Ministry –* READ: Ephesians 4:1-16**