

# Christ

in 1 Corinthians





# Christ

in 1 Corinthians

---

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST



# Outline

---

- The Spirit and His Gifts (12:4-11)
- The Body and Its Members (12:12-27)
- Love and Its Vital Importance (13:1-13)





# 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

---

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.



# The Spirit and His Gifts

---

- The *gift* of the Spirit vs. The *gifts* of the Spirit





# 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

---

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but **the same Spirit**; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but **the same Lord**; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is **the same God** who empowers them all **in everyone**. <sup>7</sup> **To each** is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> For **to one** is given **through the Spirit** the utterance of wisdom, and **to another** the utterance of knowledge **according to the same Spirit**, <sup>9</sup> **to another** faith **by the same Spirit**, **to another** gifts of healing **by the one Spirit**, <sup>10</sup> **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. <sup>11</sup> All these are empowered **by one and the same Spirit**, who apportions **to each one individually** as he wills.



# The Spirit and His Gifts

---

- The *gift* of the Spirit and the *gifts* of the Spirit







The way to determine our spiritual gifts is not to ask, "What is my 'thing' spiritually, my spiritual specialty, that sets me apart from other believers and gives me a distinguishing niche in the church?" Rather the New Testament on the whole takes a much more *functional* or *situational* approach. The question to ask is, "What in the situation in which God has placed me are the particular opportunities I see for serving other believers in word and deed (cf. I Peter 4:10f.)?" "What are the specific needs confronting me that need to be ministered to?" Posing and effectively responding to this question will go a long way not only toward discovering but also actually using our spiritual gifts."



# The Body and Its Members

---



# 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

---

<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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?





# 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

---

<sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup> which our more presentable parts do not require.



# 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

---

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. <sup>27</sup> Now, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.





# The Body and Its Members

---



# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect





# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect
  - The errors of individualism and collectivism



# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect
  - The errors of individualism and collectivism
- The responsibility aspect





# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect
  - The errors of individualism and collectivism
- The responsibility aspect
  - The errors of apathy and (lack of) empathy



# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect
  - The errors of individualism and collectivism
- The responsibility aspect
  - The errors of empathy and apathy
- The attitude aspect





# The Body and Its Members

---

- The identity aspect
  - The errors of individualism and collectivism
- The responsibility aspect
  - The errors of empathy and apathy
- The attitude aspect
  - The errors of envy and pride



# Love and Its Vital Importance

---





# 1 Corinthians 12:31b – 13:13

---

I will show you a still more excellent way. <sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.



# 1 Corinthians 12:31b – 13:13

---

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.





# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3)
- The description of love (vv. 4-7)
- The eternality of love (vv. 8-13)



# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3)





# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3
  - “No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son...has made him known.”  
(Jn. 1:18)



# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3)
  - “No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son...has made him known.”  
(Jn. 1:18)
  - “No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us.”  
(1 Jn. 4:12)





# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3)
- The description of love (vv. 4-7)





*C. S. Lewis*

*The*  
WEIGHT  
OF GLORY  
—

“It is a serious thing...to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations.”



# Love and Its Vital Importance

---

- The necessity of love (vv. 1-3)
- The description of love (vv. 4-7)
- The eternality of love (vv. 8-13)



# 1 John 4:7-12

---

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.





# Christ

in 1 Corinthians

---

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

