OBSERVATION INTERPRETATION APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on "Latest Studies" on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

# 1 CORINTHIANS, Chapter 12 – Spiritual Gifts: Unity in Diversity; Unity and Diversity in One Body

Paul is now directing his correcting attention to the next item that needed correction of the Corinthians church. This pertains to the order of worship and the subject of Spiritual Gifts will be discussed. The Corinthian church most likely considered themselves to be experts in this area.

This chapter **opens the discussion on spiritual gifts** (chaps. 12-14), and in this day when churches and denominations are emphasizing the work of the Spirit, we need to know what God has to say on this subject. However, we must study these chapters in the light of the **problems in the Corinthian church** — **division, immorality, stunted spiritual growth, and confusion in the assembly**. Here in 1Co\_12:1-31, Paul explains the work of the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ as He bestows spiritual gifts upon the members. 1Co\_13:1-13 emphasizes that Christian graces, flowing from love, are more important than spectacular gifts; in 1Co\_14:1-40 he lays down the principles that should govern worship in the community of the church

#### **Outline:**

- I. We Belong to Each Other (1Co\_12:1-20)
  - A. We share the same confession (1Co 12:1-3).
  - B. We serve the same God (1Co 12:4-6).
  - C. We seek to build the same body (1Co\_12:7-13).
  - D. We share the same baptism (1Co\_12:14-20).
- **II.** We Need Each Other (1Co 12:21-25)
- III. We Affect Each Other (1Co 12:26-31)

# SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

Spirit of the Living God, Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Break me, melt me, Mold me, fill me, Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

#### Signs and Wonders:

Sign – leads people to God, to the correct destination! Wonder – Something that make people stop and wonder about God!

One way today to demonstrate the supernatural is through the exercise of spiritual gifts! These are important!

#### 1 Corinthians 12:6

Activities – This is translated from the Greek word, energema, from which we get our word "energize".

- In verse  $1Co\_12:4$ , we see different gifts, but the <u>same Spirit</u>. In verse  $1Co\_12:5$ , we see different <u>ministries</u>, but the <u>same Lord Jesus</u>. In verse  $1Co\_12:6$ , we see different <u>energies</u>, but the <u>same God</u>. The gifts are linked to the Spirit.
- The ministries are linked to the Son.
- The operations are linked to the Father.

These three verses may unlock the mystery of chapter 12. You see, although the word of wisdom, tongues and interpretation, healings, miracles, and faith are often referred to as the gifts of the Spirit, it may be that the gifts of the Spirit are technically found in only one place: *Romans 12*. That is the only time the word "gifts" is actually used. It is in Romans 12 that we see **the gifts of prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling, and mercy**. It would seem that every brother and sister has one of the primarily motivational gifts seen in *Romans 12*. The Lord then opens up a ministry for this gift.

The word "ministry" is used in *Ephesians 4*, wherein we see **five ministries listed:** *apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher.* 

## 1 Corinthians 12:13

Those who use this verse as proof that all Christians are baptized in the Spirit fail to understand that **there are many baptisms seen in Scripture...** 

- John's baptism is the baptism of repentance (Luk\_7:29).
- The baptism of Moses refers to those who followed him through the Red Sea (1Co\_10:2).
- Jesus told His disciples they would be **baptized with the Holy Ghost** (*Act\_1:5*).
- Paul speaks of being **baptized into Jesus Christ** (*Rom\_6:3*). What baptism is being talked about here? **It's the Spirit baptizing us into the body of Christ**. Jesus baptizes us into the Holy Spirit (*Mat\_3:11*). And, as seen here, **the Spirit baptizes us into one body.**

# Texts which Enumerate the Spiritual Gifts

<u>ICo 12:8-10 (9 gifts)</u> for to one is given the <u>word of wisdom</u> through the Spirit, to another the <u>word of knowledge</u> through the same Spirit, [9] to another <u>faith</u> by the same Spirit, to another gifts of <u>healings</u> by the same Spirit, [10] to another the working of <u>miracles</u>, to another <u>prophecy</u>, to another <u>discerning of spirits</u>, to another different kinds of <u>tongues</u>, to another the <u>interpretation of tongues</u>.

<u>1Co 12:28;30 (8 gifts including healings, listed above)</u> And God has appointed these in the church: first <u>apostles</u>, second <u>prophets</u>, third teachers, after that <u>miracles</u>, then gifts of <u>healings</u>, <u>helps</u>, <u>administrations</u>, varieties of <u>tongues</u>. [30] Do all <u>interpret?</u>

Romans 12:3; 6-8 (5 more, not given in 1<sup>St</sup> Cor. 12) For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. [6] Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; [7] or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; [8] he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Ephesians 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

<u>1 Peter 4:10-11</u> As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. [11] If anyone speaks, let him <u>speak</u> as the oracles of God. If anyone <u>ministers</u>, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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## 1 CORINTHIANS, Chapter 12 – Spiritual Gifts: Unity in Diversity: Spiritual Gifts

1Co 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:

- 1Co 12:2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.
- 1Co 12:3 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 <u>except by the Holy</u> Spirit.
- 1Co 12:4 There are <u>diversities</u> of gifts (different gifts of the Spirit), but the <u>same Spirit</u>.
- *1Co 12:5 There are differences of ministries* (many different ministries), *but the same Lord.*
- 1Co 12:6 And there are <u>diversities of activities</u> (operations), but it is the same God who works <u>all in all</u> (<u>everyone</u> in the body of Christ).

- v. 1
  The word "gifts" does not appear in the original Greek manuscripts. Paul actually said, "Now concerning pneumatikos ("spiritual"; spiritual things, spirituality), referring to the entire realm of the manifestations of the Spirit. "I would not have you ignorant." Paul's same desire concerning Old Testament typology in 1 Corinthians 10, the Rapture in 1 Thessalonians 4, the tactics of Satan in 2 Corinthians 3, and the future of Israel in Romans 11. These areas, which Paul wanted believers to be knowledgeable, are the very ones about which believers throughout history have had the most questions. His concern was inspired indeed. So here is another example of the immaturity and ignorance of the Corinthian church.
- vs. 2-3 A The majority came from an idolatrous background, A rumor circulating in Paul's day said, "If you pray in the Spirit, you can actually unknowingly curse Jesus." And such a rumor is heard to this day. Paul, however, makes it clear that it is impossible for a person praying in the Spirit to say Jesus is accursed.
- <u>v. 4</u> Here is where the word "gifts," or charisma, appears in the original text. It would seem not coincidental that charisma is a form of the word charis, or "grace"—that which is undeserved and unearned.
- <u>v. 5</u> That is, there are diversities of ministries, but the same Lord—the Lord Jesus Christ. It doesn't make any difference which gift you may have. It is the Lord Jesus who is using that gift, and He is using it for His glory.
- v. 6 There are diversities of activity—that is, of the energy. But it is the same God who works in all, and He is the One who works in the believer. We are reminded that there is but one God—but He is a Trinity. The Trinity works together; there is a unity. But there is a diversity in unity. Notice that the Holy Spirit bestows the gifts; the Lord Jesus Christ administers the gifts—they are under His direction; the Father God supplies the power, and He energizes the gifts. All of this is for the one purpose of exalting and glorifying the lordship of Jesus Christ.

<u>v.</u> 1 This area was likely one the Corinthians felt they were expert in, but they were told they shouldn't be ignorant spiritual things, including spiritual gifts and of their exercise! How ignorant are we? Today there is often either neglect of the spiritual gifts or there is an abuse of the spiritual gifts! Its one thing to have the gifts and having them in operation and the proper execution of these gifts.

God wants our lives to demonstrate the supernatural! That

only God could do the things they are done in our lives!

<u>v. 2</u> Our past teaching possibly have resulted in a poor understanding of the Holy Spirit and His gifts. Also it is easy to carry over our materialistic and/or superstitious views into our understanding of spiritual gifts. Notice we have a God, not mute, but speaks to us through the Holy Spirit through the

exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

<u>v. 3</u> We must be careful that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is not to promote ourselves or any man, but only to glorify and represent Jesus. The true ministry of the Holy Spirit will be according to the nature of Jesus. <u>Rom 8:9</u> But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the <u>Spirit of Christ</u>, he is not His.

When the spirt is operating like Jesus, matches Jesus, matching the Word of God, then it's the Spirit of God! It will always look like Jesus!

vs. 4-6 We must not focus on our own area of gifts, ministries, or activities and believe that those who have other gifts, ministries, or activities are not as spiritual as we are! Yet the One God has a glorious diversity in the way He does things. We should never expect it to be all according to the way we see things. There is a lot of diversity in the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit holds it all together! Differences in healings (men like trees, washing in Siloam, room for the Holy Spirit to operate differently), teachings – some minister to the head more, some more to the heart, but they are of the same Spirit.

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1Co 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all (common good):

<u>v. 7</u> The word "manifestation" means "to make known." The gifts, ministries, and operations are made known through our lives not so we can write them down in our diaries, but so we can bless others.

v. 7 The Holy Spirit is always present in and among Christians. At times, the Spirit's presence seems to be more apparent than other times. We shouldn't think the Holy Spirit is more present when He is manifested through the gifts. Every single true believer in Christ has been given at least one supernatural, spiritual gift of the Holy Spirit in our life, for the profit of all! Notice the words "given" and "to each one" "and for the profit of all"!

1Co 12:8 for to one is given the <u>word of wisdom</u> through the Spirit, to another the <u>word of knowledge</u> through the same Spirit, <u>v. 8</u> The word of wisdom doesn't come from one's ability to figure out a situation. It is supernaturally given to answer a question or solve a problem. The <u>word of wisdom is given to know what to do</u> with the word of knowledge.

<u>v. 8</u> One does well to understand the difference between the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge. We may have great knowledge, even supernatural knowledge, yet have no wisdom from God in the application of that knowledge. Spiritual wisdom tells us how to use the word of knowledge that we receive. Examples —someone will give you 1 million \$-what to do? James — Acts 15, first Church council

1Co 12:9 to another <u>faith</u> (supernatural faith) by the same Spirit, to another <u>gifts</u> of <u>healings</u> by the same Spirit,

<u>v. 9</u> Every believer has a measure of faith, otherwise he wouldn't be saved. There are those who move in the supernatural arena of faith, where, because of an exercise of faith, things happen that wouldn't happen otherwise. The operation of faith is the ability to step out in response to the leading of the Spirit and do something you would never have done otherwise.

v. 9 While faith is an essential part of every Christian's life, the gift of faith is the unique ability to trust God against all circumstances. Examples are Peter's walking on water; Peter & John at the gate healing lame man (Acts 3) and the Christian philanthropist George Mueller, who in nineteenth century in England provided for thousands of orphans completely by prayer, without even asking for donations.

1Co 12:10 to another the working of <u>miracles</u>, to another <u>prophecy</u> (speak forth for God, sometime forth telling-"thus saith the Lord!), to another <u>discerning of spirits</u>, to another different kinds of <u>tongues</u>, to another the <u>interpretation of tongues</u>.

v. 10 Working of miracles: Literally dynameis, or "acts of power." Gifts of healing and working of miracles often operate in conjunction with the gift of faith, not done on the whim of the individual, but operate as an individual is prompted by God and given the faith to perform such a work. *Prophecy*: The telling-forth of God's message in a particular situation, always in accord with His Word and His current work, sometimes having the character of foretelling the future. It's more than teaching. Discerning of Spirits: The ability to tell the difference between true and false doctrine, and between what is of the Holy Spirit and what isn't. To discern what spirit is operating among three spirts - Spirit of God, spirit of man, spirit of the **devil.** The *gift of tongues* is a personal language of prayer given by God, whereby the believer can communicate with God beyond the limits of knowledge and understanding, important place in the believer's devotional life, but a small place in the church. The gift of the interpretation of tongues, allows the gift of tongues to be of benefit for those other than the speaker.

v. 10 The working of other miracles. Prophecy - Foretelling things to come. The discerning - Whether men be of an upright spirit or no; whether they have natural or supernatural gifts for offices in the church; and whether they who profess to speak by inspiration speak from a divine, a natural, or a diabolical spirit. Example - Acts 16:17-19 girl at Philippi. Each of these five gifts in the verse are given, usually when needed to accomplish God's will in individual Christian's lives. Being familiar with each enables their use more readily. No mention of tongues in Acts, Chapter 8. Contrary to the teaching of some churches, not all baptized in the Holy Spirit receive the gift of tongue.

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1Co 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

# <u>Unity</u> and <u>Diversity</u> in <u>One Body – a body without the</u> parts is not one body!

- ICo 12:12 For as the body is <u>one</u> and has many members, but all the members of that <u>one</u> body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.
- 1Co 12:13 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.
- 1Co 12:14 For in fact the body is not <u>one</u> member but <u>many.</u>
- 1Co 12:15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body?
- 1Co 12:16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body?
- 1Co 12:17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?
- 1Co 12:18 But now <u>God has set the members</u>, each one of them, in the body <u>just as He pleased</u>.
- 1Co 12:19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?
- 1Co 12:20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.
- 1Co 12:21 And 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."
- 1Co 12:22 No, much rather, those members of the body which <u>seem</u> to be weaker are necessary.

- <u>v. 11</u> Here is another reason for unity, and a reason against any sense of superiority regarding the gifts. They are distributed not according to the will of man, but as the Spirit of God will as He wills
- v. 12 In chapter 1, Paul had rebuked the Corinthian believers for their carnal divisions. Here he touches the same subject once again. Only this time he reminds them of a cardinal doctrine as he teaches them that they are the one body of Christ. He will use the human physical body as an analogy. Although each of them had different ministries, operations, and gifts, they were still one entity, one body.
- v. 13 This is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, who puts us into the body of believers and who gives a gift to each particular member. We are to function in that body, and we are to use that gift. It may be that we are the "big toes" with an unseen but important ministry. We each have a gift, and we are each to function.
- vs. 14-17 Suppose there would be a return of the gift of tongues such as there was in the apostolic times. It still would be true that not everyone would speak in tongues. The analogy is to our bodies. Our bodies are not all tongue. The Holy Spirit is not going to give the same gift to every person. Like the human body, there need to be eyes and ears and feet and hands. Different people are given different gifts by the Spirit of God so that the body of Christ can function in all its necessary capacities.
  v.18. God has formed the body, with its various members, as he saw would best conduce to the harmony and usefulness of all.
- <u>vs. 19-22</u> The seemingly feeblest members are indeed sometimes the most necessary member. Without exception, whatever you do, whatever gifts God has embedded in you, whatever the operations flowing through you, whatever the ministries opened to you—you are needed in the body.

- v. 11 The Holy Spirit is sovereign in all this. We are encouraged to pray for the best gifts, as Paul will tell these Corinthians. Paul was trying to correct the things that were wrong in the Corinthian church. He is showing them that there are many gifts and that the Holy Spirit distributes to each one individually as He wills. Tendency to go in 2 directions once I discover my gift I'm disappointed in it! I'm just a big toe! To despise my gift or the other extreme is to be very proud over my gift!
- v. 12 Even though each of us may be blessed with different ministries, operations and gifts, we must remember that we're all part of one entity, the one body of Christ. Just like our various body parts, although uniquely different are all part of our one and only physical body! They weren't unified; therefore they weren't getting much done!
- <u>v. 13</u> The "body-like" unity of Christians is not a goal to achieve; it is a fact to be recognized. Paul clearly says we were all baptized into one body. He is not talking about water baptism as much as Spirit baptism: For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, having a common "immersion" which brings them into one body. The Corinthians were primarily emphasizing and exalting **only two gifts those of tongues and of prophecy! They were getting all the acclaim! Wrong!**
- <u>vs. 14</u> -17 The body is made up of not one member but many. There are many parts to the body. Everybody needs to take their place, which will allow the body to function as intended! We need to see the emphasis on the word "one" in these verses.
- <u>v.18</u> We are parts of the body and there is that interdependency upon one another. God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. We are here at God's pleasure. We are what we are by God's design and pleasure. We need to be content with the location and purpose that He has placed us!
- <u>vs. 19-22</u> You and I need each other, and the Lord wants to use all of us. Those of us seem to be the most feeble members are indeed often the most necessary. Use your appointed position all to God's glory! **Don't be mislead by gifts that SEEM to be weak and ineffective!** Every part needs to take its place. They have a much larger impact that we think.

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1Co 12:23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty,

1Co 12:24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it,

1Co 12:25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

1Co 12:26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

1Co 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

1Co 12:28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps (supernatural gift of "taking by the hand"), administrations (used of as a navigator of a ship), varieties of tongues.

vs. 23-24 When Which parts of your body do you spend extra time concealing and camouflaging? The parts you want to hide. So, too, in the body of Christ, who gets the extra attention, the spotlight? The uncomely parts. We think just the opposite. We think the spiritual superstars are the ones who get the attention. In reality, however, when we get to heaven, there will be some real shocks. The people who were not seen, not known, not up in front; the people who were worshiping and praying, loving and sharing, cutting firewood or visiting rest homes will be honored in heaven. Conversely, those of us who have been "center stage" on earth will be in the back row somewhere in heaven.

<u>v. 25</u> There is no hierarchy in the body of Christ. We need each other!

<u>vs. 26-28</u>. If you have a headache, do your legs say, "That's tough. We're going hiking anyway"? No. If one part of your body hurts, your whole body rests. If you throw a touchdown pass and win the game, does your left arm get upset because your right arm threw the ball? No, your whole body celebrates. So, too, as believers, we both suffer and celebrate together because we're all members of the same body

vs. 23-25 God pays attention to the body of believers so that the small gifts are developed. Paul goes on to say that this should all be done so that there is no schism in the body. Each of the members are critically needed. All should all have the same care one for another. Example of bullet proof vests!

John Wooden, the great basketball coach, would take the incoming player into the locker room, as a team, and teach them how to put their socks on, in order not to have the formation of blisters, so that the whole player wouldn't be lost due to blisters on their feet. No matter how talented they were, they couldn't perform with blisters on their feet. He gave great importance to those things which were not seen!

<u>v. 26</u> There is no place for jealousy in the church—we all are members of the same body. If one is honored, we all receive that honor. And when one member is suffering, we all suffer with him!

<u>v. 27</u> Paul sums up his previous point. Even as a human body is a unified whole with many different parts, so also is the body of Jesus Christ.

<u>v. 28</u> There is sort of a priority list for the gifts, that some have more significance than others. But each gift is important and each individual believer is important. Even in the human body, there are some parts that we can do without, even though their absence might handicap us a bit.

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1Co 12:29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? (NO!)
1Co 12:30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues (No mention of tongues in Acts, Chapter 8. Contrary to the teaching of some churches, not all baptized in the Holy Spirit receive the gift of tongues?) Do all interpret? (NO!)

1Co 12:31 <u>But earnestly desire the best gifts.</u> <u>And yet I show you a more excellent way.</u>

THE WONDER OF IT ALL – George Beverly Shea There's the wonder of sunset at evening, The wonder as sunrise I see; But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul Is the wonder that God loves me.

Refrain: O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all! Just to think that God loves me.
O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all! Just to think that God loves me.

There's the wonder of springtime and harvest, The sky, the stars, the sun; But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul Is a wonder that's only begun. (Refrain)

<u>v. 29</u> Apostles are "special ambassadors" of the church, having had a unique apostolic authority, which will never be repeated because the foundation of the church has already been set (*Eph\_2:20*). However, God still has His "special ambassadors" in the church today, though not with the same authority as the original apostles. *Prophets* are those particularly called to speak forth for God with the gift of prophecy. There was a unique, foundational authority to this gift as well (*Eph\_2:19-20*). However, God raises up those to speak to the church and the world with a special blessing and power. *Workers of miracles*: Those used of God to do miracles. Yet, the Biblical pattern is for them though on the Holy Spirit's initiative, not their own.

v. 30 Do all speak with tongues? Paul's plain meaning is that the gift of tongues is not for every believer, just as the gifting of apostles, prophets, teachers, working of miracles or healings and so forth are not for every believer. Great damage has been done in the church by promoting tongues as necessary to really live as a Christian, or as the evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence. This has caused many to seek the gift of tongues, or to "fake" the gift of tongues, often only to assure one's self or others that they are indeed filled with the Holy Spirit. Since tongues is a communicative gift, used in speaking to God, the gift of tongues should be desired when the individual feels a lack in their ability to communicate with God. When one feels hindered in their ability to talk to God using their given language, they can and should ask God for the empowering to communicate with God in a language which He understands, but which surpasses my understanding. If someone feels satisfied with their ability to communicate with God, there is really no need for the gift of tongues, and it should not be desired until one does want a communication with God which goes beyond understanding.

<u>v. 31</u>. Earnestly desire the best gifts: Though the Holy Spirit gives the gifts, it is good and proper for us to desire them, and to ask for them, all in submission to the plan of God. Paul will explain the more excellent way in chapter 13, with a focus on love, not the gifts themselves. The gifts are merely ways we can express and receive love from God and love to one another.

vs. 29-30 The answer to all these questions is obviously "No" because there's wonderful, needful diversity in the body. We have differing gifts but the same Spirit. We have different operations by the same God. We have different administrations but the same Lord. There is the unity and yet the diversity in the unity in the body of Christ.

<u>v. 31</u> Paul will explain the more excellent way in chapter 13, with a focus on love, not the gifts themselves. The gifts are merely ways we can express and receive love from God and love to one another. They are the "containers" and what is in the container - love - is far more important. The use of spiritual gifts must be motivated by love!

Gifts of the Spirit and their operation is indeed important. Lord, I want to have everything You have for me. So how can I go about knowing my gifts and exercising them?

How can I know what my gift is? When you look around the world, in what areas, does my heart sigh? <u>Mar 7:33-34</u> And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. [34] Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."

What areas really make my heart tender? The need for people to know the Bible! What about kids? All you can see are kids! Everybody already has a spiritual gift – it's already there! A tendency to move in that gift! Where do you look where your heart is tender!

Illustration of spilled coffee by ten year old daughter: Response? Gift of **helps** – clean up; **teaching** – **teach** how to carry the cup; **exhortation** – fill the cups back up, you can do it!; **administration** who allowed to a 10 year old; **giving** – first reaction is to pay for the broken cups; **mercy**, oh honey I know just how you feel!

Just be aware of opportunities of how to exercise the gift that you already have!

DO YOU EARNESTLY DESIRE THE BEST GIFTS?

OBSERVATION INTERPRETATION APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on "Latest Studies" on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.