



Mustard Seed Lesson for July 23, 2006
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"Share Spiritual Gifts"

Scripture Text: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

GOLDEN TEXT: - "The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal" (1 Corinthians 12:7). "

LESSON TEXT

1 Corinthians 12:1--13 (*New King James Version*)

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

2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.

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 except by the Holy Spirit.

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.

6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:

8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

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

Unity and Diversity in One Body

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ.

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.

NOTES ON THE LESSON

The Holy Spirit, who knows what ministry needs to be done in the body of Christ, enables every believer to do something well. Paul listed several gifts here and elsewhere (cf. Rom. 12:4-8). Some, such as the ability to preach, seem linked to natural talent. Others, such as giving and faith, seem to be a God-created disposition of the heart. Whatever the gift, each is intended for the benefit of the body as a whole.

Paul reminded the Corinthians of the way God has designed the human body. The foot differs from the hand, but each is necessary. The ear differs from the eye, but each is necessary. The body needs the contribution of each. The proper functioning of each believer in Corinth would bless the entire body, and so it is with us.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God gives each of His children a special ability to help others in the body of believers.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God has made every believer in Jesus able to serve other believers in some special way.
2. Like each part of the human body, each child of God has a contribution to make to the whole body of Christ.
3. Boys and girls probably do not yet know what their special gift is, but they can please Jesus now.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For **Telling the Lesson**, take the scroll from lesson 1 (or make one with construction paper), a picture of presents, a picture of an athlete, and a sign reading "Can Do."

For **Helping to Remember**, provide three pieces of chenille wire (a soft tufted cord used in embroidery) for each child.

BEGINNING THE LESSON

Who likes presents? The Bible says God gives a special present to every boy and girl and man and woman who believes in Jesus. Not one of God's children has been left out; so if you have believed that Jesus died for you, God has given you a special present. What could it be?

TELLING THE LESSON

Paul was writing to the church in Corinth. (Hold up scroll.) His friends there had believed the news about Jesus dying for them, and God had made them His children. Now Paul wanted them to know that God had also given them something.

God's gift was not the kind of present that comes in a box. (Show presents.) No, when they believed in Jesus, He made each one able to do something especially well for Him. You might say these were "can do" gifts. (Display "Can Do.")

Now, if you have trusted Jesus to save you, God has made you able to do something especially well for Him too. You have a "can do" present.

The Bible is not talking about being able to throw a ball hard. It is not talking about being able to get the best report card. It is talking about being able to do something special that others in Jesus' family need. God cares about people, and He knows there are many different ways to help them.

God makes some of His children especially wise so that they can help the ones who just do not know what is best. (Point to "Can Do.")

He makes some of His children able to teach especially well. They can explain what the Bible says so that others in God's family will understand. (Point to "Can Do.")

Some get the "can do" present of being able to give. These people are able to see right away when somebody else needs something. They are the ones who give and give to missionaries.

God's "can do" gift to some is being able to just believe God no matter what happens. That shows others what it is like to trust Him. This is called "faith."

Those are just some of God's "can do" gifts. (Hold up "Can Do.") Each of His people gets one. Nobody gets left out. Just remember that your "can do" gift is for helping somebody else.

Paul told his friends in Corinth to think about their bodies. A body has many parts, he said, and every part does something different. You know how it is. (Show athlete.) Feet are for walking. Eyes are for seeing. Hands are for holding. Ears are for hearing. (Refer to the body parts in the picture.) Then there are the inside parts that we cannot see. Hearts beat. Lungs breathe. Each part has something to do, and what each part does helps the whole body.

We need them all. Eyes cannot do the hands' job. Feet cannot do the heart's job. To have a strong body that is the best it can be, we need all the parts doing their own work.

Paul said the people who believe in the Lord Jesus are like a body. Believers are the different parts of that body. God wants each of us to use his own special "can do" gift to help others. When we all do that, the whole body of believers is well and strong.

Think of all the people in the world who believe in Jesus. Now think of all the different "can do" gifts God has

given them. (Point to "Can Do.") What a great and wise and kind heavenly Father He is!

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

Most boys and girls do not know which "can do" gift they have until they are older. If you belong to Jesus, though, you can be sure you do have a "can do" gift. He will show you what it is at the right time.

What can you do right now? Make Jesus happy today. Talk to Him. Read and listen to His Book, the Holy Bible. Do what He says.

Let each child form a head and body with one piece of chenille wire. Then have them fold the other two pieces in half and twist them around the body to make arms and legs. They may turn up the ends of the arms and legs slightly to make hands and feet. Remind them that as God has made each body part able to do special work, so He has made each believer able to do something special.

EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT

"The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal" (1 Corinthians 12:7).

God has given each one of His children a special gift. His gift will make you able to do something especially well for other people.

ACTIVITY:

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:4**

TRUE OR FALSE

2. "There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:5**

TRUE OR FALSE

3. "And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:6**

TRUE OR FALSE

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

4. "...for to one is given the word of (**WISDOM, FOOLISHNESS**) through the Spirit, to another the word of (**KNOWLEDGE, IGNORANCE**) through the same Spirit." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:8**

5. "...to another (**FAITH, FEAR**) by the same Spirit, to another gifts of (**HEALING, FEELINGS**) by the same Spirit." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:9**

TRUE OR FALSE:

6. "...to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:10**

TRUE OR FALSE

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

TRUE OR FALSE

8. "For the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ." **1 CORINTHIANS 12:12**

TRUE OR FALSE

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

TRUE OR FALSE

(1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-31; 14:1-40)

SPIRITUALGIFTSFIVPFA
TEACHERSPROPHETSRADT
FBWHGAFNSPWDPSOIMBO
OTJWVFZVBZKRSEFTIDZY
RHTEKWAAQIOELIHNWGOY
UJNISEPOBPUTTZIZOUEG
AMENCUBWHGSMBCRAHS
MUMTUJSENOEOTIIGDROE
DNNEENCOPMDRSLNFOOLI
NHRRTYTABYAECYW MFKYR
AEEP NQBEMTLBQRSTKMST
TLCRRAREICOKULEONNPS
SPSEWSROACWSWP IIOHII
RSITIBNRIBFLBFFOWYRN
ENDASSITTKUZQSIMLMII
DRKTD MZENLAIBTDCEVTM
ESGIOMFPBWHCABEODVWP
PCQOMMICPFODFCDWGBBC
ORNNGJAVSGNILAEHEBTF
HGGZQLBTYILOVETLABSN

**ADMINISTRATIONS
HEALINGS
MEMBERS
SPIRITUAL GIFTS
APOSTLES
HELPS
MINISTRIES
TEACHERS
BODY
HOLY SPIRIT
MIRACLES
TONGUES
DISCERNMENT
INTERPRETATION
PROFIT
UNDERSTAND
EDIFIES
JESUS
PROPHECY
WISDOM
FAITH
LOVE
PROPHETS
WORD OF KNOWLEDGE
GOD
HOPE**

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