

SHOWING  
*the*  
SPIRIT  
DISCUSSION GUIDE

# One Spirit, Many Gifts

1 Corinthians 12.1-11

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Share plans for the last of your Community Group gatherings for this year and the following happening in the life of the church:*

- **Summer Studies, June-July** | As groups wind down let's not stop meeting together! Make sure and register for one or more of our "summer studies." Visit the website and click the Summer Studies image for more information. Or see the list in each week's Sunday bulletin. (Leaders: consider sharing which summer study you'll be participating in and ask others in your group to join you). <https://goo.gl/DtB9XV>

## OPENER

A possible icebreaker question: What is your favorite food to have on a picnic?

## OPENING PRAYER

Open your group in prayer. Pray extemporaneously, or use this prayer: *Lord God, help us to experience and live by the power of the Holy Spirit in us. Open our minds and fill our hearts with the truth that the Spirit dwells within, empowers us for holy living, and intercedes for us even when don't know what or how to pray. Help us learn and grow this evening and help us spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Amen.*

## STUDY/DISCUSSION

*We believe that people experience and grow in their faith when they get to spend time reflecting on God's Word, and also hearing from each other. That's what we're hoping for tonight.*

1. **Read 1 Corinthians 12.1-11.**
2. In the very first verse of this chapter Paul shares his concern for the church at Corinth. What is it? Do you think this is a challenge for people today? Why or why not?
3. What do you think it means when Paul says there are varieties of gifts? And what is the significance for the church family? (see v.4)
4. What unifies the church amidst the *variety* of gifts? (v.5)
5. In v. 7 what does Paul say the manifestation of the Spirit, or spiritual gifts, FOR?

6. What is “the common good” Paul is talking about?
7. One of the themes that repeatedly comes up in this letter from Paul to the Corinthians is the warning to not be “puffed up”. How might spiritual gifts be used wrongly, that is, to “puff up” or make one proud?
8. In what ways do we tend to forget that our gifts are for the common good?
9. What are some of the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in this passage?
10. Who gives these gifts and decides what gifts people receive?
11. Why might we be hesitant to use the gifts God has given us?
12. In what ways might we fail to appreciate the full *variety* of spiritual gifts? How can we grow to more fully appreciate the variety of spiritual gifts?
13. How do the full variety of spiritual gifts prepare us for service to the church family (the body of Christ, as Paul says later in this chapter) AND for mission in our homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, etc.?
14. What is one next step you can take this week toward discovering and using the gifts God has given you for the common good?

## **PRAYER**

Take some time to pray together. This can be done together as a whole group, or in smaller groups. Exchange prayer requests.