

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

❖ Day 1

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the supporting clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

<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.

1. Grammar lesson: In 12:1 we observed that “Now concerning” indicated Paul’s shift to a new topic. Does “Now” at the beginning of verse 4 indicate a new topic? (Remember from the previous lesson, how long will Paul be on the topic of spiritual gifts?) What does the “now” in verse 4 indicate? (Note that the distinction between them is clear in the Greek with the “*Peri de*” construction in verse 1 vs the simple “*de*” in verse 4.)
2. In verses 4-6 Paul gives a triplet of parallel statements using the two words “varieties” and “same.” In the space below, list what Paul mentions under each category.

Varities

Same

3. In these verses, who supplies, and who receives?

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4. Why is it significant that “God ... empowers them all”? And how should this truth help to correct the Corinthians’ view of their spiritual gifts?
5. According to verse 7, what “is given”?
6. What does ‘manifestation’ mean?
7. Why is it significant that the manifestation of the Spirit is *given*? What would the opposite be?
8. Why is it significant that the manifestation is given *to each*?

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 again.

9. According to verse 7, for what purpose is the manifestation of the Spirit given?
10. Who/what does “common” refer to? And how should this help to correct the Corinthian’s view of their spiritual gifts?

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11. What “good[s]” might it do for a church member to manifest the Holy Spirit? (As you make your list, be sure to look ahead to 14:12&26 for a key thing to include.)

12. Are there counterfeit or unholy spirits?

a. What harm might it do for a person in a congregation to manifest a counterfeit spirit?

b. What evidence would you look for to recognize a counterfeit spirit?

13. Look back at your chart in question 2.

a. Which category from God does Paul primarily address in correcting the Corinthians?

b. How should the structure of verses 4-6 help to correct an overemphasis on one group over the others?

c. Why might Paul have used different titles for God when he is stressing His unity? How should this influence the Corinthian’s view of their spiritual gifts?

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❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 again.

14. Restate this week's passage in your own words. Be sure to include the points Paul was making and how those points should correct the Corinthians.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. If verse 7 is the thesis statement of this paragraph, and the subject from this paragraph continues for multiple chapters, how could it be helpful to keep that sentence in mind as a thesis for the whole section?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
16. How do you see the Spirit manifested in your own individual life, and how do you employ that manifestation for the common good of the church?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we will see God working in His church as He empowers our gifts, service, and activities for the good of the body.