

Excel in Building Up the Church



1 Corinthians 12, 14

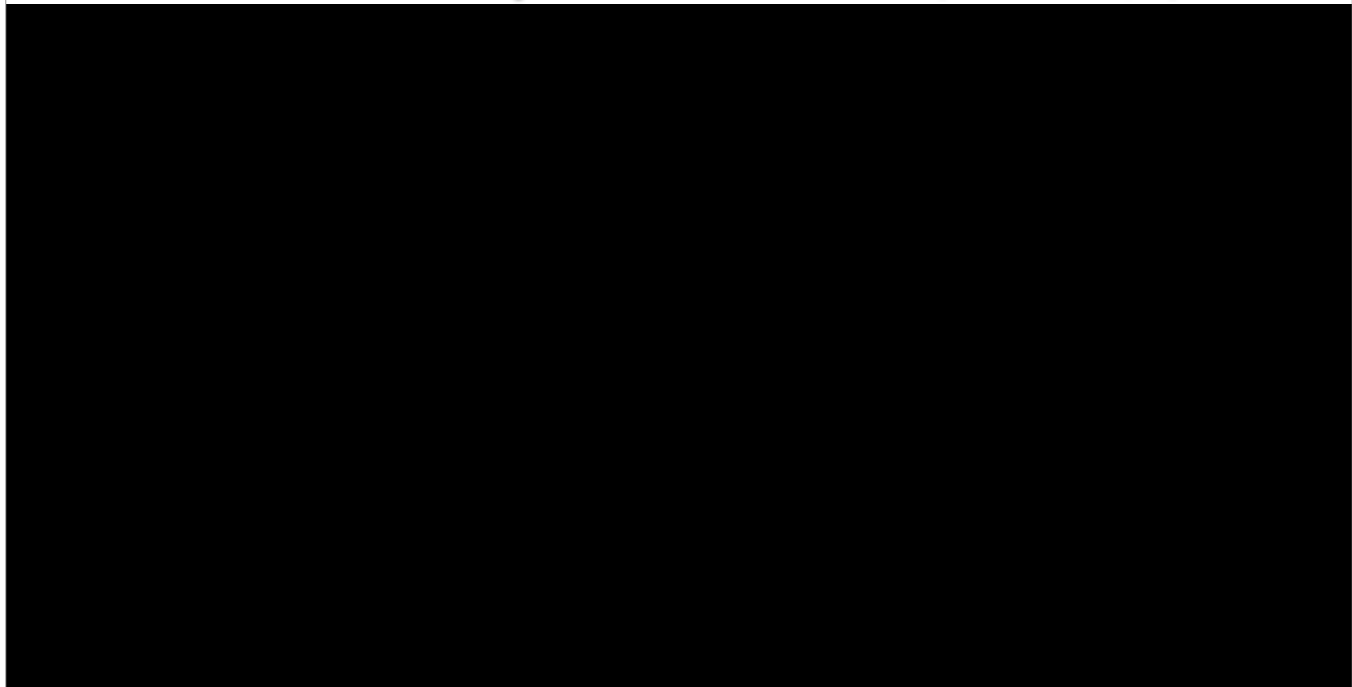


- 1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.
- Grievances and Lawsuits: Be defrauded and take the wrong
- Food offered to Idols: Knowledge puffs up, love builds up
 - Stumble, Destroy
- Lord's Supper: Come together for Better
 - Despise, humiliate
 - Wait for one another

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good

(1 Corinthians 12, 14)

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
- 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;
- 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.
- 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
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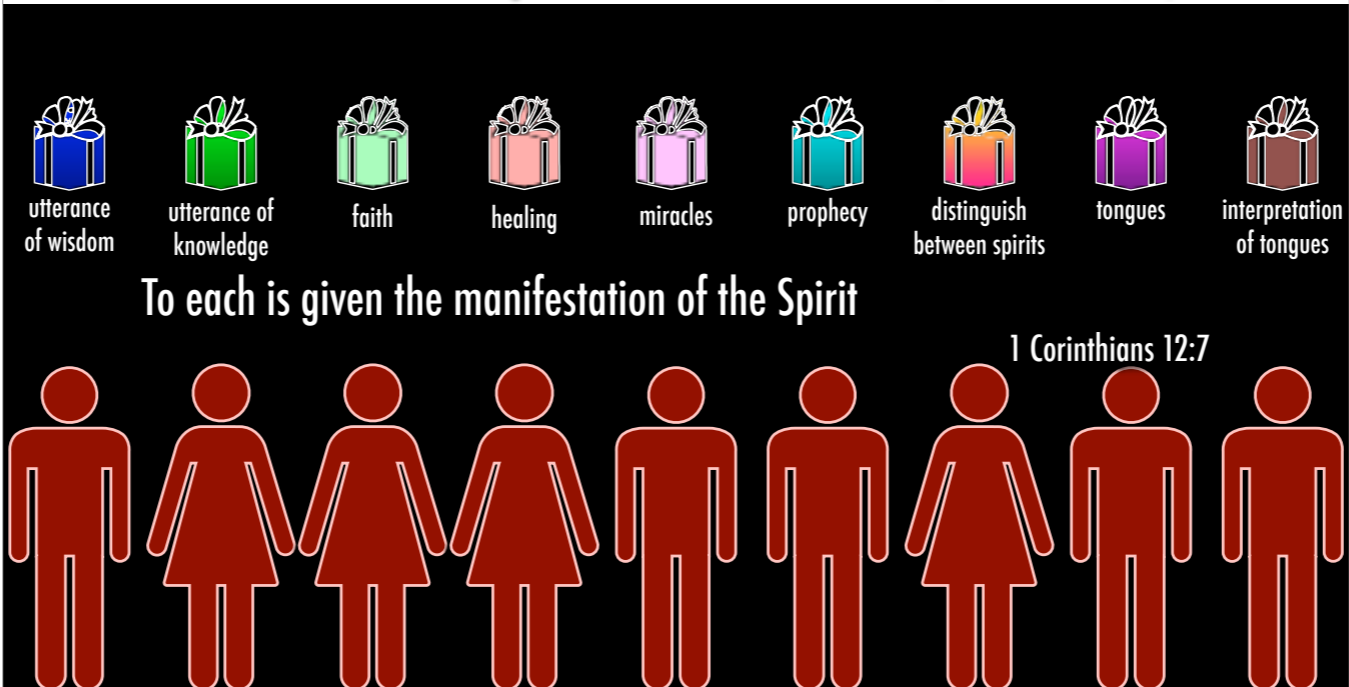


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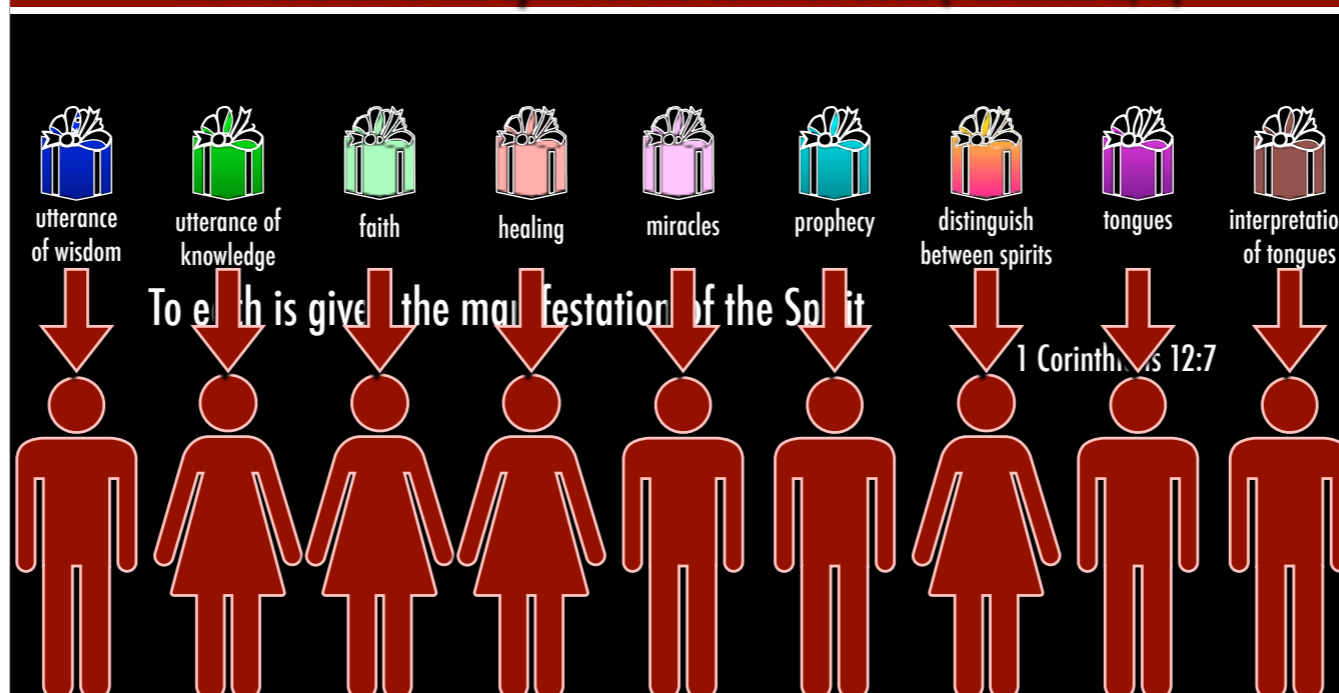
- 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
 - (NET) To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the benefit of all.
- To EACH

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



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Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

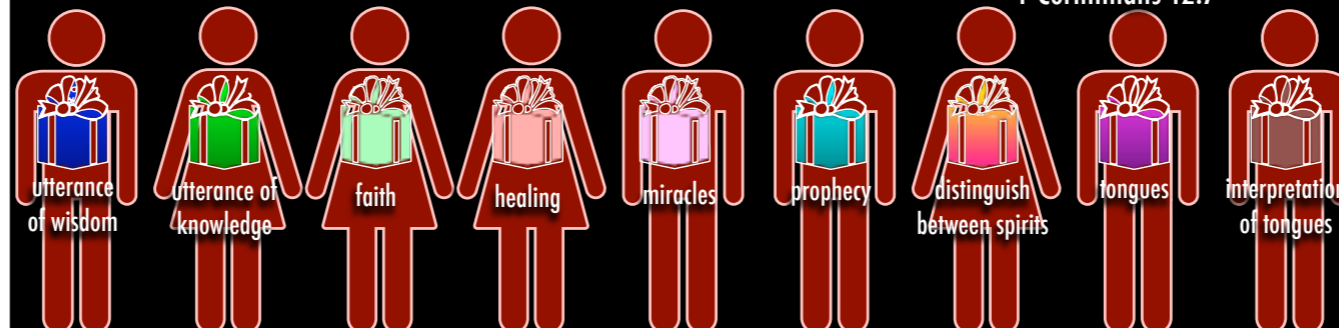


- 8 For to one is given through the Spirit
- the utterance of wisdom,
- and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,
- 9 to another faith by the same Spirit,
- to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,
- 10 to another the working of miracles,
- to another prophecy,
- to another the ability to distinguish between spirits,
- to another various kinds of tongues,
- to another the interpretation of tongues.
-

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:7



- 11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

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Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

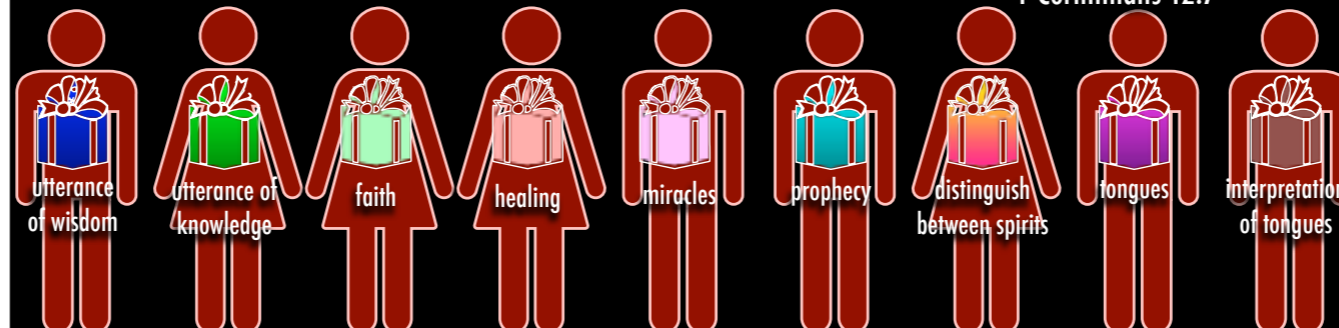


- 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- Common good
 - to be profitable, advantageous, to contribute or bring together for the benefit of another.
 - (CWSB Dictionary)
 - What edifies is profitable (1 Cor. 10:23; 12:7).
 - (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (Abridged - Little Kittel))

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit **for the common good.**

1 Corinthians 12:7

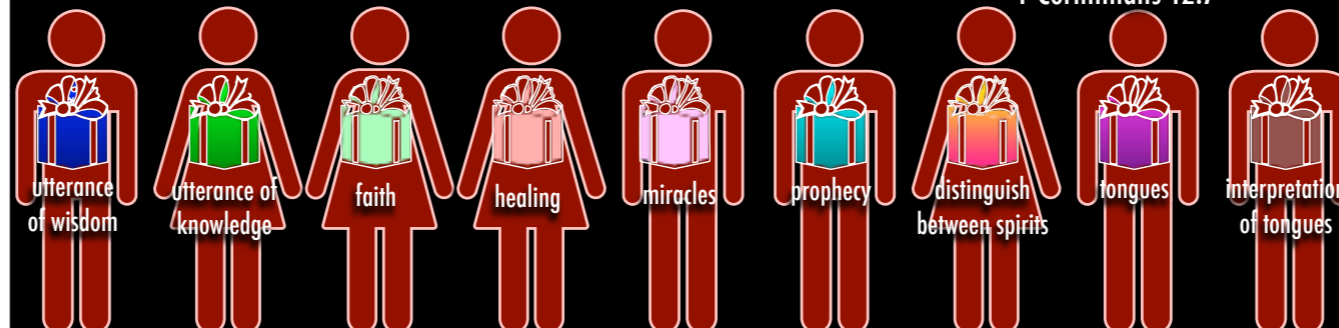


- 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.
- 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body
- —Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—
- and all were made to drink of one Spirit.
- 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

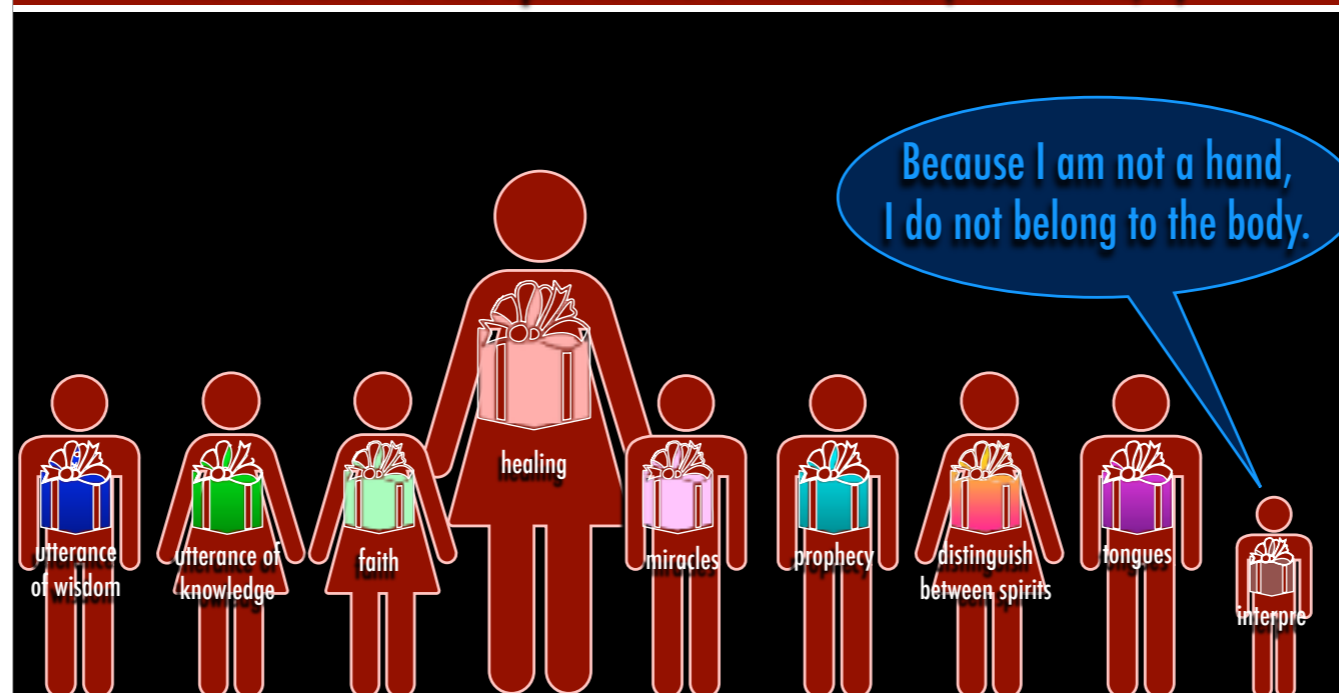
To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit **for the common good.**

1 Corinthians 12:7



- So clearly, Paul sees not only individuals within the body. He sees one body.
 - As we've talked, this is very much how Paul viewed us: a family, brothers and sisters.
 - United by our faith, our baptism, and God's spirit.
- Beautiful picture.
 - But God knows our nature, and Paul helps us to understand the danger of these gifts.

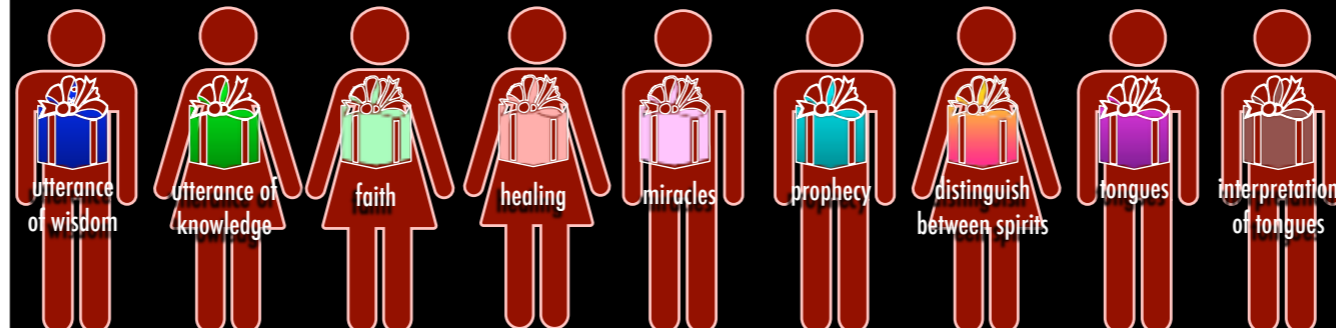
Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 15 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.
- 16 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.
- 17 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?

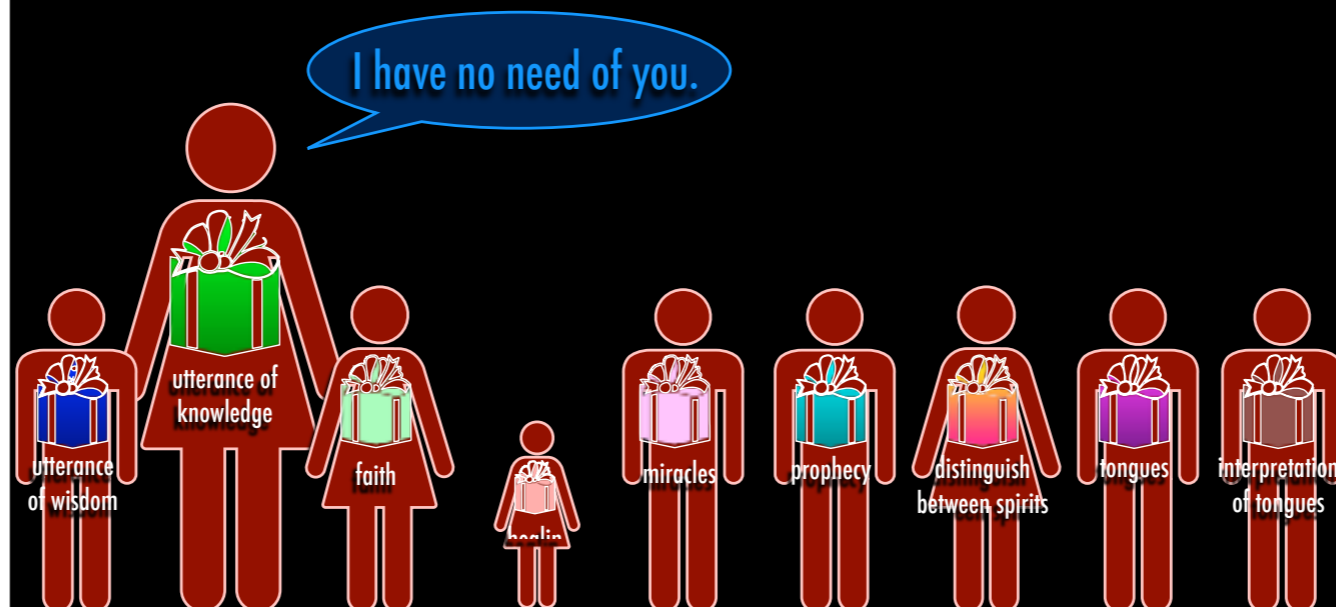
Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

God arranged the members in the body
1 Corinthians 12:18



- 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.
- 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

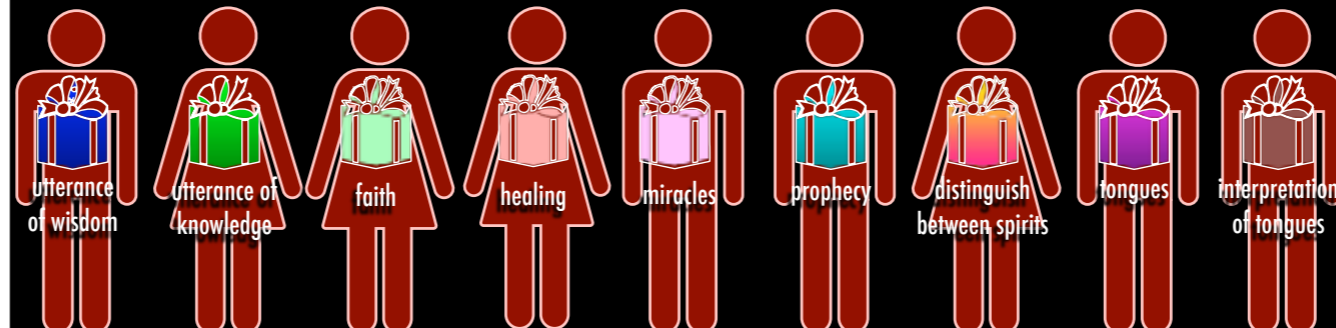


- 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.
- 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you,"
- nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

But God has so composed the body

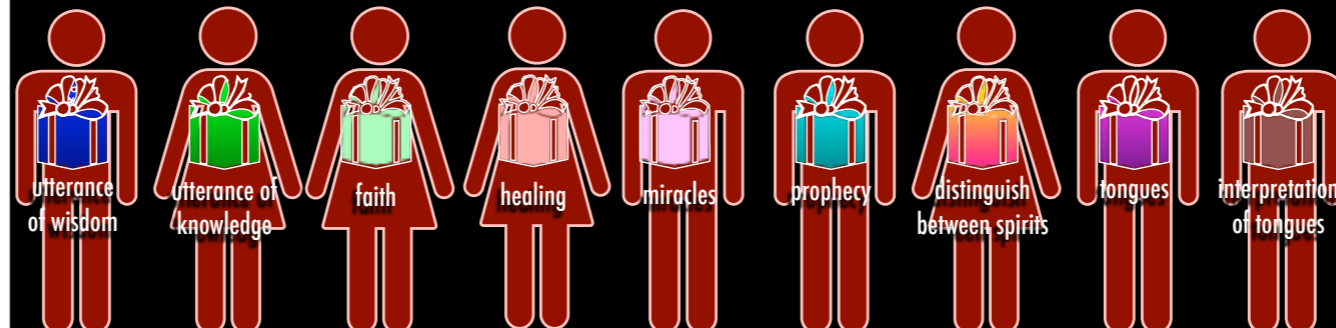
1 Corinthians 12:24



- 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,
- 23 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,
- 24 which our more presentable parts do not require.
- But God has so composed the body,
- giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

But God has so composed the body
1 Corinthians 12:24

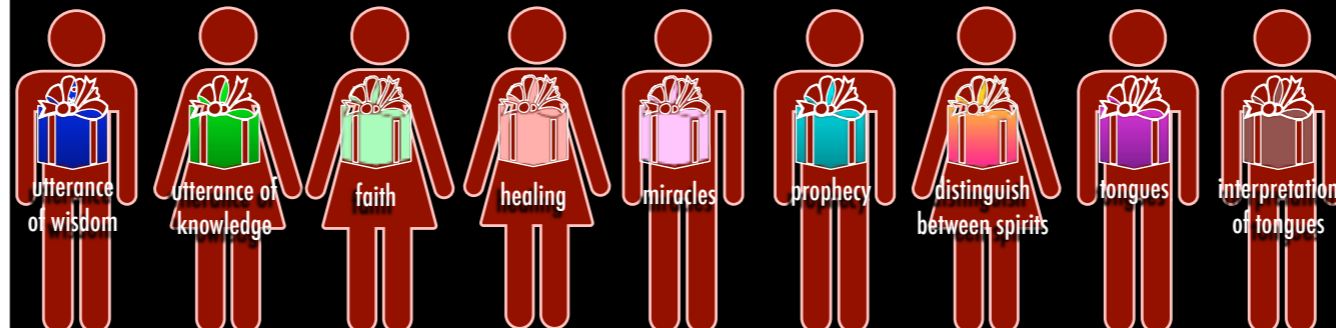


- 25 that there may be no division in the body,
- but that the members may have the same care for one another.
- 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together;
- if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

But God has so composed the body

1 Corinthians 12:24

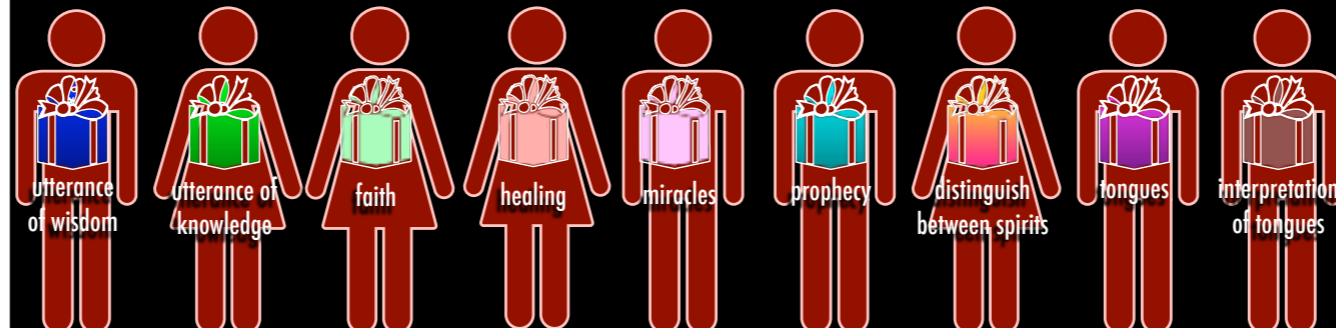


- 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
 - 28 And God has appointed in the church
 - first apostles,
 - second prophets,
 - third teachers,
 - then miracles,
 - then gifts of healing, helping, administrating,
 - and various kinds of tongues.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

But God has so composed the body

1 Corinthians 12:24



- 29 Are all apostles?
 - Are all prophets?
 - Are all teachers?
 - Do all work miracles?
- 30 Do all possess gifts of healing?
 - Do all speak with tongues?
 - Do all interpret?
- 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



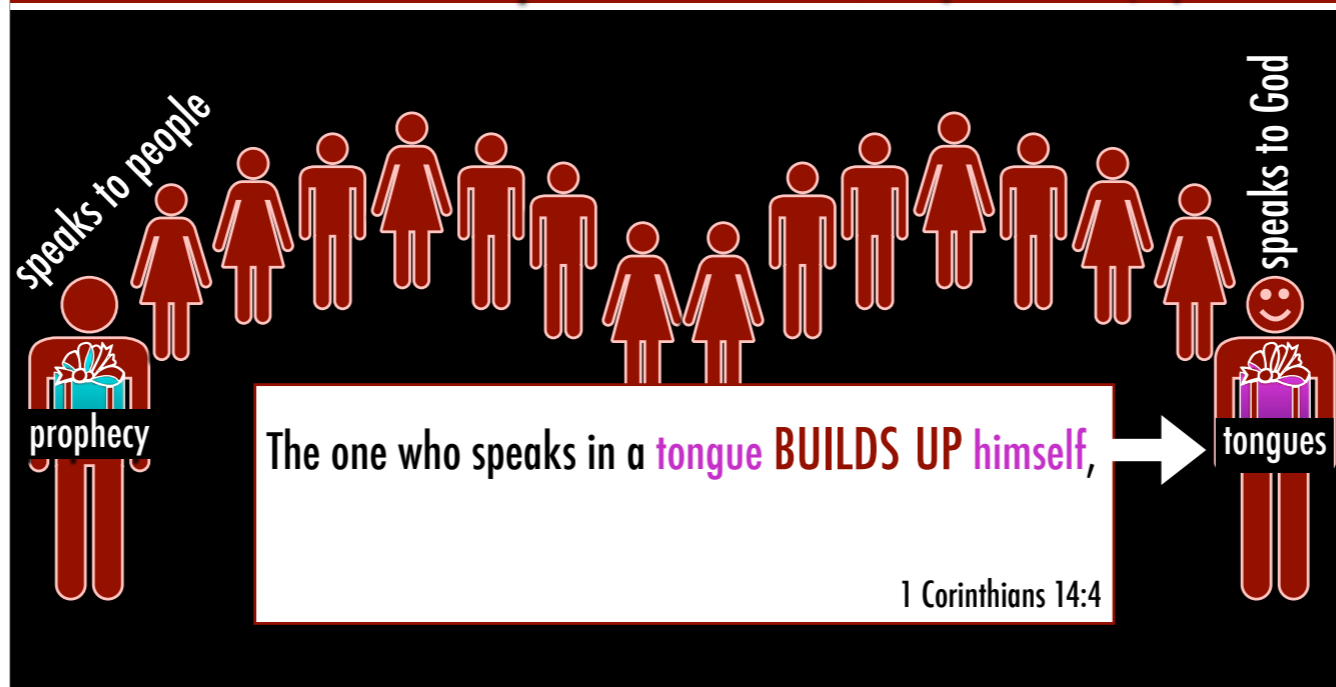
- Paul focus' on two particular gifts, perhaps they were the main one's in Corinth that separated themselves from the body and exalted themselves?
 - He does remind about the purpose of the gifts.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



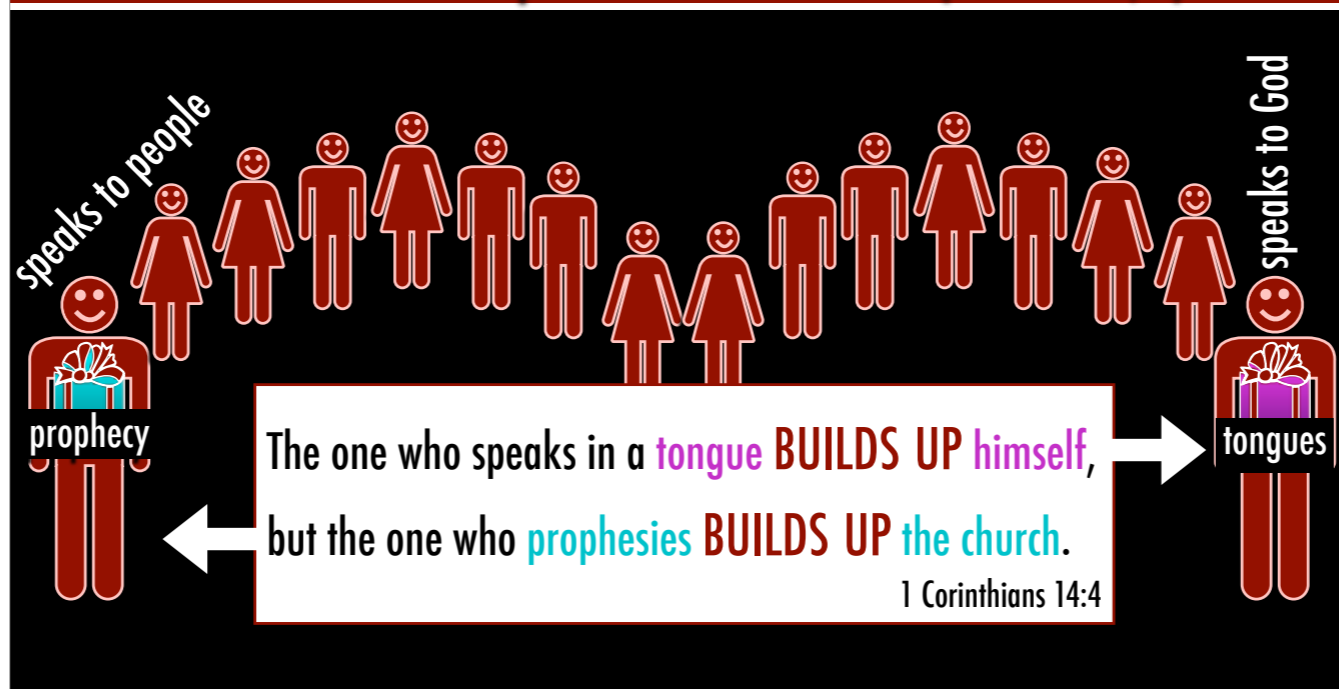
- 2 For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God;
 - for no one understands him,
 - but he utters mysteries in the Spirit.
- 3 On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people
 - for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 4 The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself,
 - Note: Paul doesn't say this is wrong, or bad.
 - He's explaining what this is ... and building up is a good thing
- All the gifts of the spirit are good, useful, given for a purpose.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- but the one who prophesies builds up the church.
 - Paul is reminding us what is better
 - And why it's better ... because it's not just about me, but about us
- What ever gift we have, then the question to ask is
 - How can I use this gift to build up my siblings?

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)

The one who speaks in a tongue **BUILDS UP** himself, but the one who **prophesies** **BUILDS UP** the church.
1 Corinthians 14:4

speaks to people

prophecy

speaks to God

tongues

- 5 Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy.
 - The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues,
 - unless someone interprets, so **that the church may be built up.**

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 12 So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit,
 - strive to excel in building up the church.
- 13 Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. (because it builds up)
 - 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful.
 - 15 What am I to do?
 - I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also;
 - I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also.
 - 16 Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say “Amen” to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying?
 - 17 For you may be giving thanks well enough, **but the other person is not being built up.**
- 18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.
 - 19 Nevertheless, in church
 - I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others,
 - than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 20 Brothers, do not be children in your thinking.
 - Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.
- Children thinking is often selfish and immediate?
- Mature thinking should discern what is best
 - Understands the importance of timing, focus on others, purpose, usefulness
-

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- 26 What then, brothers?
 - When you come together,
 - each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation.
- Let all things be done for building up.

Manifestation of the Spirit for the Common Good (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



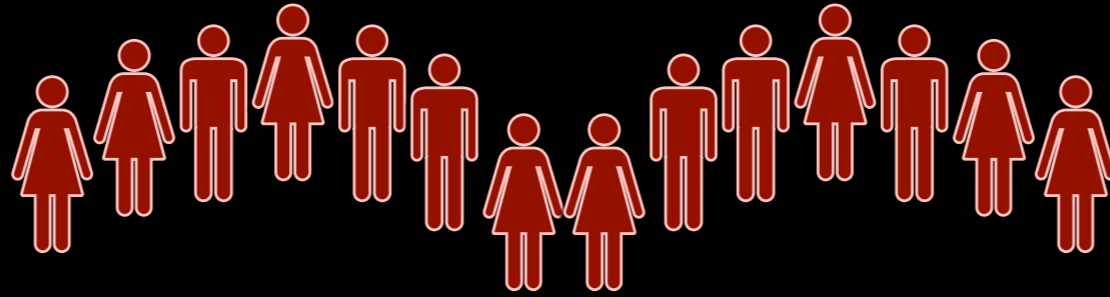
- Take Turns ... Limit yourselves
 - mature thinking ... accepts that what others have to do or say is at least as important as mine, and maybe more important.
 - Be Silent (30)
 - One by One (31)
- All may learn (31)
- All be encouraged (31)
- 39 So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.
- 40 But all things should be done decently and in order.

What does this mean for us?



- What does this mean for us?
- Romans 12:4-8

What does this mean for us?

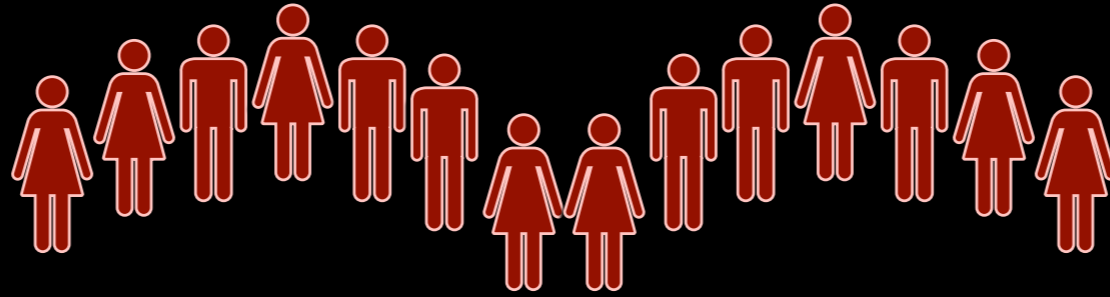


having gifts that differ ... let us use them

- Romans 12:4-8 (ESV) 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them

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What does this mean for us?



having gifts that differ ... let us use them

prophecy service teaches exhorts contributes leads mercy

- if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;
- 7 if service, in our serving;
- the one who teaches, in his teaching;
- 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation;
- the one who contributes, in generosity;
- the one who leads, with zeal;
- the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

What does this mean for us?

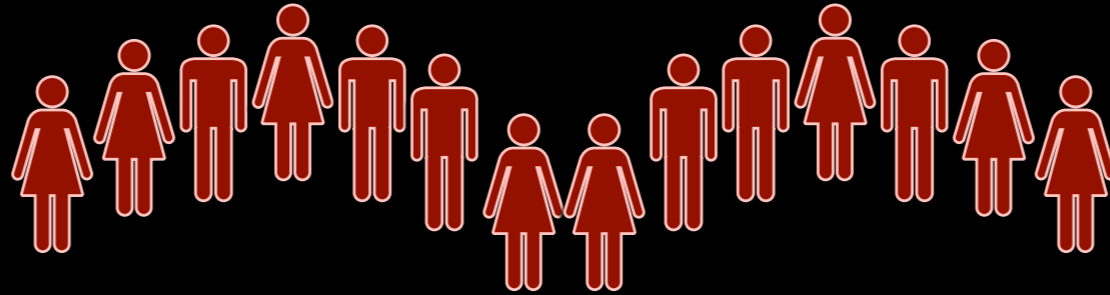


having gifts that differ ... let us use them

prophecy service teaches exhorts contributes leads mercy

- We still have gifts
 - We still need to use them
- Mature thinking use them to build up our siblings
 - Don't compete with each other
 - Don't try to put yourself first.
 - Make room for others to use their gifts.
 - Remember the purpose of the gift
- Strive to excel in building up the church!

What does this mean for us?



the members may have the same care for one another

- 1 Corinthians 12:24-26 (ESV) But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.
- One key that Paul makes is that instead of dividing and being individualistic
 - We remember that our God brought us together as one body
 - Everyone has a part, everyone is necessary
 - And we need to care for each other
 - suffering and rejoicing
- When we have this care for one another, we build each other up.
- Let's always come together for the better.

Let brotherly love continue.

Hebrews 13:1

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Holy Brothers

#07

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Excel in Building Up the Church

1 Corinthians 14:12

Synopsis: Paul reminds the brothers and sisters in Corinth that when we come together to worship we must be especially mindful that our individual gifts are used to build up each other.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”