Studies on the Holy Spirit, Lesson 10

THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Corinthians 12:1–31; 14:1–40

Key Verse: 12:7

1. How can we tell who has the gifts of the Holy Spirit? (12:1–3) Read 12:4–6; note the parallels here. Why is it important for us to know that the gifts, service and working in a Christian fellowship are all from the same Spirit, Lord and God?
2. Read 12:7. What is God’s purpose in giving believers different manifestations of the Holy Spirit? (c.f. 14:12; Eph4:12) Why is it important to know this purpose? How does the Spirit reveal his sovereignty in distributing spiritual gifts? (12:8–11) Why do we need to know this? How does the Spirit unite diverse believers into one body? (12:12–14)
3. How do the different parts of the human body help us understand our unity, despite our varied gifts? (12:15–20) How does this also help us understand our interdependency? (12:21–26) Read 12:27. Why is it important to have this viewpoint? What are the different gifts listed? (12:28–30) Which ones should we “eagerly desire”? (12:31)
4. Read 14:1. What does it mean to “follow the way of love”? (13:4–7) Why should we desire the gift of prophecy most? (14:1b–5) How did Paul try to help those eager to speak in tongues? (14:6–12) Why is the interpretation of tongues so important? (14:13–17) What did Paul say personally? (14:18–19) What else did he say? (14:20–21)
5. How is prophecy better than tongues in a church gathering? (14:22–25) What instructions did Paul give regarding tongues? (14:26–28) Prophecy? (14:29–33) Women? (14:34–35) What were his final words on this subject? (14:36–40)