

Women's Bible Study
Study Questions for March 22, 2017
Unity in Giftedness ~ Svea Merry
1 Corinthians 12

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12.

2. According to verses 4–11, how and why are we given spiritual gifts?

3. In verses 12–27, Paul uses an analogy of the body to illustrate how the church is well-served by a variety of gifts. Given that church unity is a key theme of 1 Corinthians, how does Paul's emphasis on God's design for diversity contribute to church unity?

4. Identify the specific spiritual gifts Paul mentions in this chapter. Then, read Romans 12:6–8 and add any additionally mentioned gifts to your list.

5. Do you think these lists of gifts are complete, or are there other ways in which God equips His people to serve that don't fit into these categories? Explain your answer.

6. The Corinthian Christians evidently held certain gifts in greater esteem than others and neglected some in favor of others. Do you see this as a problem amongst Christians today?

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1. If you've identified your spiritual gifts, share your top one or two with the group.

2. Does knowing your spiritual gifts affect how you serve the church? Have you typically served according to your gifting, or have you more often served where you've been asked to serve?

3. What could you do to develop or strengthen your gifts? Don't be afraid to brainstorm together about how specific gift areas could be exercised.

4. Is there a time of life in which we are exempt from using our gifts? How might a busy young mother find realistic ways to use her gifts? How might a retired woman find joy in using a well-used gift in a new way?

5. How should the diversity of gifting lead to unity within the church? Have you experienced great kinship with a fellow Christian who was quite different from you?

6. If asked to serve in an area inconsistent with your spiritual gifts, would you do it? How might you discern whether an opportunity is God taking you out of your comfort zone and challenging you to try something new, or if it is clearly not a good fit for you?