

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

1 CORINTHIANS: A BEAUTIFUL MESS

1 Corinthians 12:4–11

August 1, 2021

DISCUSSION 1: OVERVIEW OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. When you think of “spiritual gifts,” what comes to mind, and why do you think of that?
2. What are “spiritual gifts”?
3. What are some of the purposes of spiritual gifts?
4. What are benefits of a spiritual gifts test or inventory? What are limits of such a tool?
5. Do you think it’s important to know your spiritual gifts? Why or why not?

DISCUSSION 2: THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. What are some things we might learn about the diversity of gifts in the body? What should that teach us?
2. Why is it important to recognize spiritual gifts as being for the good of others and often done in the context of the local church or evangelism? Why is tempting to wrongly see spiritual gifts as primarily about or for myself?
3. What are some ways the church loses out when people are sitting on rather than using their gifts?

DISCUSSION 3: SERVANTHOOD

1. While we often think of our gifts and strengths, why is it also important to think about how God uses our weaknesses, failures, and the trials we walk through to serve others?
2. Can you share examples of how you’ve discovered a spiritual gift or passion as you’ve served and been affirmed in it by others or seen fruit? Was it something you knew was a gift or something you discovered as you served?
3. Why is thinking about spiritual gifts important? How does it help us think about our role in the Church but also see how dependent we are on others in the Church?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- You can find a list of spiritual gifts and a spiritual gifts assesment/test at lifeway.com.