

"God's Love Letter To an Unlovely Church"
Spiritual Gifts #2 – "The Supernatural Harmony of the Body" -
1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Avoid Spiritual Gift Pride & Envy Reflect upon the Church As Christ's Body

1. We As the Body of Christ Have an Essential Unity We Must Honor – 12-13

A. The church is a body with the unity that a body naturally possesses

B. The unifying factor is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit - *Matthew 3:11*

2. We As the Body of Christ Have a Functional Diversity That Must Function– 14-26

A. The church as a body is diverse in its parts – Vs 14

The List - Apostles – Prophets - Teachers – evangelists - the pastors and teachers - utterance of wisdom utterance of knowledge - faith - healing - working of miracles - prophecy - ability to distinguish between spirits - various kinds of tongues - interpretation of tongues – Helping - administrating -Service – exhorting – generosity – leading - acts of mercy

B. This diversity does not cancel out its unity – Vss 15-26

Paul confronts two sins

Envy of Gifts- vss 14-19

Pride of gifts – vss 20 -21 –

C. The "behind the scene" gifts are often the most effective..... Vss 22-24

3. We Can Have Voluntary Harmony In Light of Our Unity and Diversity – 27-31

A. There must be harmony in the body

Romans 12:3-8

B. To have harmony there is a designated functional hierarchy that must be respected

"the truth that all contributions are important does not deny the fact that some gifts are greater than others in their immediate and long-term benefits to the church."
David Jackman

Some parts are more vital functionally and this must be joyfully acknowledged

first apostles, second prophets, third teachers

But that did not make them superior!