

Morning Worship

November 1, 2015

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Chorus # 247 "Come, Thou Almighty King"		Tim/People
Offering/Worship Prayer		Fred Kerns
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Marcia Hart
Hymn # 181 "No, Not One"		Tim/People
Hymn # 182 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"		Tim/People
Solo		Sharon Waters
Hymn # 576 "Take the Name of Jesus with You"		Tim/People
Chorus # 577 "The Old Ship of Zion"		Tim/People
Children's Worship		
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message		Allan Lane
Hymn # 326 "All on the Altar"		Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Chorus of # 448 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"		Tim/People

His Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The whole topic of spiritual gifts has been a tension-filled battleground for many years, going back to the church at Corinth. 1 Corinthians 12 gives us six directives to help us.

1) Be Informed about Spiritual Gifts.

When we come to 1 Corinthians 12-14 we see that Paul wanted to make sure that they had a proper understanding about spiritual gifts. The church at Corinth desperately needed instruction on this topic, and so do we. Notice 12:1.

Definition. One of the best definitions is from Bruce Bugbee, founder and president of Network Ministries: "Spiritual gifts are divine abilities distributed by the Holy Spirit to every believer according to God's design and grace for the common good of the body of Christ" ("What You Do Best in the Body of Christ," Page 52).

Difference between spiritual gifts and natural abilities. It's important to recognize that a spiritual gift is given by the Holy Spirit at conversion, whereas a natural talent is something we're born with. While we must yield our talents and abilities to the Lord's work, we also must pay particular attention to unleashing our spiritual gifts for the good of the body of Christ. Also, there is a difference between spiritual gifts and the fruit of the Spirit. Both the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and spiritual gifts are necessary for a life of servanthood, but they make very different contributions.

Distinct categories. There are many ways to categorize the gifts of the Spirit. Chuck Swindoll has suggested three gift groupings. Based on 1 Peter 4:11, there are two primary areas of distinction: "speaking and serving." The third category would include the "sign gifts," which are more temporary in nature. 2 Corinthians 12:12 says

that these gifts were given to the apostles and were critical to the church in its embryonic stage. These gifts were especially important in the first century, before the canon of Scripture was put together.

- Speaking Gifts: Word of wisdom, prophecy, evangelism, pastor-teacher, and teaching
- Service Gifts: Administration, exhortation, faith, giving, helps, serving, and mercy
- Sign Gifts: Distinguishing of spirits, miracles, healings, tongues, interpretation

Description of Gifts. If you were to add up all the distinct spiritual gifts, you'd come up with around 20 or so. Since each of the lists does not appear to be exhaustive, there may even be more. These gifts are found in four books of the New Testament: Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4 and 1 Peter 4.

Distribution of Gifts. As we study this topic of spiritual gifts, it's important to keep in mind that we're commanded to do much of the things that are also listed as spiritual gifts. For instance, while some people have the gift of giving, all of us are to be givers of our resources to kingdom purposes. Likewise, we aren't excused from our responsibility to witness just because we might not have the gift of evangelism.

2) Be Influenced by the Holy Spirit.

In verses 2-3, Paul challenges us to be influenced exclusively by the Holy Spirit. When we come to the topic of spiritual gifts, our focus must be on the Giver, not on the gifts themselves. Unfortunately, the Holy Spirit is often neglected in many churches today. Paul reminds us that before we were saved we were led astray by our emotions and false doctrines. Now that we are believers, the Holy Spirit empowers and energizes us for ministry.

Just as no one can confess the Lordship of Christ apart from the Spirit's leading, so too, it is impossible to improve your serve without being led by the Spirit (Galatians 5:25). The Holy Spirit blows like the wind through surrendered lives (John 3:8). We must continue to allow Him to move us into worship and the work of ministry.

3) Be Diverse in your understanding.

Paul next challenges us to incorporate diversity in our understanding of spiritual gifts (12:4-6). Notice that the Trinity is involved with the giving of gifts: the Spirit, the Lord Jesus, and God the Father. While teaching about the Trinity is not the main point of this passage, these verses help us see how the entire Godhead is involved in the giving of gifts.

The key word in this passage is the word "different." We all have different kinds of gifts, there are different ways to serve, and there are different workings. There's not just one gift that fits all believers. The word "gifts" comes from the Greek, "charismata," which is the root for the word "grace." Grace gifts are those divine abilities distributed by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of "service." This word speaks of opportunities for expressing our spiritual gifts in practical ways. The word "working" refers to the results or accomplishments that come when we use our gifts in meaningful service. Whether or not we are able to see the results, God does. We get the word "energy" from this Greek word. When we serve according to our giftedness, God gives us energy and we in turn energize the church through our service (Philippians 2:13). Because God is at work within us, we can accomplish His purposes. The Corinthians had elevated the more spectacular gifts and were giving more attention to the spiritual superstars. Paul challenges them, and us, to incorporate diversity in our understanding. We minister differently because we've been gifted differently. The same God is at work in us, but He customizes His work through us for His ultimate glory and the strength of the church.

Let me illustrate. At a potluck dinner, suppose someone dropped their dessert on the floor in the fellowship hall. This is how people with different gifts would respond.

- Gift of prophecy: "That's what happens when you're not careful."
- Gift of service: "Oh, let me help you clean it up."
- Gift of teaching: "The reason that it fell was because it was too heavy on one side. Next time carry it this way."
- Gift of exhortation: "Next time, maybe you should let someone else carry it."
- Gift of giving: "Here, you can have my dessert."
- Gift of mercy: "Don't feel too bad. It could have happened to anyone."
- Gift of administration: "Would you (one person) get the mop? Would you (another person) please help pick this up? Could you (a third person) get them another dessert?"

We've all been gifted differently and so we act differently and we serve differently. This church has every gift that is needed in order to function as a Biblical community (1 Corinthians 1:7).

4) Be Identifying your gifts.

We're to identify our spiritual gifts. The word "manifest" in verse 7 means "to make plain." Spiritual gifts are given to make plain the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This verse teaches us two things. **First**, every born again believer has been given the manifestation of the Spirit. Notice the phrase, "each one." Every Christian has been given at least one spiritual gift. 1 Corinthians 7:7 makes the same point.

Second, we've been given at least one spiritual gift for the "common good," or profit of the church (Ephesians 4:16). Gifts are given so that they can be given in service to others so that the church will be fortified. Remember that gifts are received, not achieved. The gifts of grace are given to you so that as each part does its work, the church can be built up. 1 Corinthians 12:11 tells us that the Spirit "gives to each one, just as He determines." Examine the different gift lists in the New Testament and then experiment with some different ministries. The Holy Spirit will lead you because He is the one who gave you your gifts in the first place.

5) Be Implementing your gifts through service.

While it's important to identify your gifts, it's not enough. Gifts from the Holy Spirit are to be used. Verses 12-30 describe how the church is like the human body, with each part playing a critical role in the functioning of the body. You've been given gifts and a key role to play in this church. Until we each implement our gifts, our church will not mature in faith. The foot needs the hand, and the ear needs the eye. Likewise, we all need each other. If you're hoarding your gifts and not using them, the entire body is handicapped.

A well-known conductor was holding a rehearsal one night with a vast array of musicians and a hundred-voice choir. While the mighty chorus sang out, the horns blared and the cymbals clashed. Sitting far back in the orchestra, the piccolo player thought to herself, "With all these loud instruments, it doesn't matter what I do. They don't need me." And so she stopped playing. Suddenly the conductor stopped the music and looked right at the piccolo player and said, "It doesn't sound right without you. If you don't play, the concert's off. We need you."

You're needed in this church! God has gifted you and now He wants to use you. Don't allow yourself to think you don't matter. Everybody is somebody in the body of Christ. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.

6) Be Intensified with love.

One of the lessons we can learn from the church at Corinth is this: having spiritual gifts does not necessarily make you spiritual. It's possible for a church to have all the gifts that are needed, and for every believer to know what their gift is, and still miss

the mark. In the last verse of 1 Corinthians 12, we're reminded that there is something far greater than even our divine abilities: "But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way."

While 1 Corinthians 13 is without doubt the best explanation of love ever written, we do a disservice to Paul's intention when we only read it at weddings. This love chapter is sandwiched between a discussion of spiritual gifts in chapter 12 and chapter 14. Paul recognizes the dangers of discovering our spiritual assets when they are divorced from love.

According to 1 Corinthians 13:7, a servant who loves "always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres." In other words, as we focus on living out the Great Commandment by intensifying our love for God and for others, then we will want to look for ways to implement our spiritual assets and serve others. Spiritual gifts, no matter how exciting and wonderful, are useless and even destructive if they are not unleashed in love.

Conclusion

Are you thankful for the different gifts that the Holy Spirit has given to you? If you were to put some things in a gift box to remind you of the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you, what would those items be? You are responsible to use what you've been given. Each of these is a gift that I've received and is displayed in my office to serve as a reminder to me.

What's in your gift box? Open it and use what you've been given. Is it time for you to think outside the box? Allow the Holy Spirit to blow into your life and lead you into some exciting serving opportunities!

What's In Your Gift Box?

The Promises of God

In 1994, a 67-year-old carpenter named Russell Herman died in Marion, Illinois. In his last will and testament he bequeathed the following:

- \$2.4 billion to the town of Cave-In-Rock
- \$2.4 billion to the city of East St. Louis
- \$1.5 billion for projects in southeastern Illinois

And in a final act of unprecedented generosity, he left \$6 trillion to the Federal Reserve to pay off the national debt (it would take a lot more today because the debt is now over \$18 trillion). There was only one problem: at the time of his death, the only thing Mr. Herman actually owned was a 1983 Oldsmobile Toronado. Russell Herman may not have left behind anything of monetary value, but he did leave us all with a good reminder: you can't give away what you don't possess.

The bottom line is that he did not have the resources to make any of this a reality. Not so with God. He has all the means to make good on all His promises. In a world of broken promises, God can be counted on.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary says a promise is: "A declaration that one will do or refrain from doing something specified...that gives the person to whom it is made a right to claim the performance or forbearance of a specified act." Most frequently in the Old Testament the word promise refers to "speaking," "speech," or "to say." So here's the deal. When God says something that settles it.

In his book "Always True," James MacDonald says: "A promise is the assurance that God gives to His people so they can walk by faith while they wait for Him to work." George Parsons from Middletown Bible Church weighs in on the difference between a command and a promise: "A command from God is something we should do; a promise from God is something God will do. A command must be obeyed; a promise must be believed. When God gives a command He says, 'You will;' when God gives a promise He says, 'I will.'"

Adoniram Judson, the great missionary to Burma, once said: "The future is as bright as the

promises of God." D.L. Moody has added: "God never made a promise that was too good to be true." And here's a statement worth pondering: "God never over-promises and He never under-delivers."

God has promised us the gift of His Holy Spirit. We can be assured of His presence and the promise that He will never leave us nor forsake us. He has gifted us to serve His Kingdom on earth. What are you giving away?

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, November 1, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Gary Yarbrough, Ken Nice, Fred Kerns, Don Sharp

Alternate: Isaac Waters

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Monday, November 2

Food Kitchen.....5:30 pm

Wednesday, November 4

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, November 5

G Team.....6:30 pm

Sunday, November 8, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

Wednesday, November 11

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, November 12

R Team.....6:30 pm

Welcome a New Member!

Marie Hren

3302 Woodbine

Saint Joseph, MO 64505

Up-Coming Events.....

November 1 — Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 2 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

November 11 — Veteran's Day
— Prayer Warriors 10 am

November 19 — Food Pantry Day

November 22 — Thanksgiving Dinner and Business Meeting at Noon

November 23 — Sunday School Workers Meeting

November 26 — Thanksgiving Day

November 29 — Diversicare 2:30 pm

November 29 — December 5—Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

Sunday Nights

We will have Sunday Evening Service here tonight at 6:30 pm with guest speaker Matt Long. Bring a friend!

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will be meeting this Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Please make plans to attend. Prayer and Bible Study matter!

Food Kitchen

Please come serve with us at the Valley Food Kitchen. We will serve Monday, November 2, at 5:30 pm.

Collection Day:

**Wednesday,
November 18**
Remember to include \$7 for postage.

THANK YOU

My Blessed Calvary Family,
Thank you all for your prayers, calls and cards during my recent challenge. My recovery was easier knowing you were all cheering me on. God bless every one of you.
Forever yours in Christ, Joyce Izer

Thanksgiving Dinner and—Business Meeting
Sunday, November 22,
at Noon

Please plan to attend and fellowship with us as we share a meal and also conduct the business of the church.

**Saint Joseph Baptist
Association**

Senior Adult Event

November 5,
10 am to 1:30 pm
Faith United Baptist Church

Food Pantry

November 19, is our collection day for Patee Park Food Pantry. You may donate monetarily or you may place your canned or boxed goods in the hallway basket any time.

Ladies Bible Study—

Beth Moore "Children of the Day"

This Bible Study has been postponed until November. Watch for a new start date.

For the Record

Attendance: October 25, 2015

Sunday School.....	45
Visitors.....	0
Total.....	45
Contacts Made.....	11
Morning Worship.....	53
Children's Worship	10
Sunday Night	10
Wednesday Night	N/A

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received...	\$ 2,250.91

Offering Received by Mail:

Eric and Shelly Thompson

November Counting Team:

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

November Van Driver:

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

November Birthdays:

07...Alva Lou Schottel
13...Shirley Wilson
14...Sam Hoover
22...Linda Dotson
23...Floetta Conard
25...Maxine Ferbert
27...Linda Kerns

November Anniversaries

Bill and Donna Dunn

November 3, 1995

Jack and Flo Conard

November 4, 1956
John and Dottie Wildberger
November 23, 1962
Jim and Brigida Winans
November 28, 1975

Prayer Requests ...

Margaret Dotson—stomach cancer
Maxine and George Ferbert
Bill Haskins—recovery
Joyce Izer—knee
Stacy Gray—cancer treatment
Muriel Elder and Family
Ann Riddle—health
Linda Rails—Doris' Richardson's sister
LoLeta's Family in Doug's death
Allen Jennings—recovery
Grant Schottel—advanced training
Henrietta Caballero—Brigida's Sister
Austin Chalfant—Abby's nephew
Gary and Marilyn Singleton—health
Bob Barquist—cancer
Jozy Winans—rehabilitation
Louanne Laurence—Joyce's Mother
Lester Buck Kathryn Beavers
Jim Winans Dorothy Post
Nellie Reynolds Leona Reynolds
Kevin Duty Opal Roberts
Madeline Swink Bobby Griswold
Lois Pace Susan Patten
Debbie Sands Sue Higgins
Brenda Burgess Judy Anderson
Carolyn Houts Roscoe Lane
Keon McKahan
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...