

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series on Letters to New Christians. Today's topic: SPIRITUAL GIFTS.

1) A variety of spiritual gifts

- a. 1 Corinthians 12:1, 11 What do all genuine spiritual gifts have in common? (there are false gifts)
- b. 1 Corinthians 12:7 What important points is Paul making here? (see also 1 Peter 4:10-11)
- c. Let's consider some of the spiritual gifts the Spirit gives: 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28-30, Ephesians 4:11-13, Romans 12:6-8 What can we learn from these lists of spiritual gifts?
- d. When did you become aware of a spiritual gift the Holy Spirit had given to you?
- e. How does a person discover his/her spiritual gift/s?

2) Unity through diversity

- a. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 What word is repeated in these verses and why?
- b. 1 Corinthians 12:12-18 How does Paul illustrate unity through diversity?
- c. 1 Corinthians 12:19-27 What important points is Paul making here?
- d. Why is it important to remember that we are collaborating, not competing?

3) The greatest gift of the Spirit

- a. 1 Corinthians 12:31 What is the more excellent way Paul is referring to? (see also 1 Corinthians 13:13)

- b. The word used here for love in 1 Corinthians 13 is agapé. What do you know about agapé love?
- c. How is the gift of agapé love described by Paul? 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a
- d. How can we be filled with this agapé love? Romans 5:5, Luke 11:13
- e. Why is a foundation of agapé love so important when using other spiritual gifts?

4) The spiritual gift of tongues and prophecy

- a. Apparently, there was a strong emphasis on the spiritual gift of tongues at the church in Corinth.
- b. What instruction did Paul give regarding use of the gift of tongues? 1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 6-19, 20-27
- c. What general counsel did Paul give regarding the gift of tongues and the importance of prophecy? 1 Corinthians 14:39-40
- d. While speaking in other tongues is included in several lists of spiritual gifts, what point does Paul emphasize in 1 Corinthians 12:30? (see also 1 Corinthians 12:11)
- e. Where was the spiritual gift of tongues manifested in the early Christian church? Acts 2:1-13, 19:1-8

