

Mosaic: Painting Christ (1)
1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Week of Feb 04, 2018
Bay Park Life Groups – Participant Guide

The Holy Spirit, like the Father and the Son, is not just a doctrine, an idea, or an experience to be tagged on to the other doctrines and experiences of our Christian life. He is the God who has invaded our lives with his transforming presence.
Craig S Keener¹

Sadly, if the Holy Spirit was removed from the earth, many churches wouldn't even notice. Conversely, in some circles, everything that happens is attributed to the Holy Spirit even though he has little or nothing to do with it. There is a better way!

Warming up . . .

1. Pick one and go for it
 - The Craig S Keener quote got me thinking about how . . .
 - Sunday's sermon got me thinking about . . .
 - The craziest thing I ever saw in the name of the Holy Ghost was . . .

Digging in . . .

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 together

2. What verses or ideas stand out to you most and why?
3. What common myths does 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 blow out of the water?
4. How might verse 7 help someone struggling to figure out what their gift is?
5. Verses 8-11 was never meant as a complete list of the gifts of the Spirit. Other passages like Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11, and 1 Peter 4:9-11 add to the list. What's the complete list of gifts? Jesus! Check out Colossians 2:9. As we (the church) use our gifts together, we are painting the mosaic of Christ. Making the invisible tangible in and out of church.

Here's a concise definition to help you understand each gift mentioned in 8-10:

Wisdom (*sophias*) – ability to apply godly insight to current challenges.

Knowledge (*gnoseos*) – depth of theological and doctrinal insight.

Faith (*pistis*) – uncommon measure of trust in God.

Healing (*iamaton*) – ability to restore health.

¹ Craig Keener, *Gift & Giver*, (Baker Academic, 2001) p 18

Miracles (*dynameis*) – supernatural workings of power.

Prophecy (*propheteia*) – perceiving and declaring God's will for his people.

Discerning of spirits (*diakriseis pneumatōn*) – ability to discern what is of God and not of God.

Tongues (*glossolalia*) – ability with known and/or heavenly languages. (If you can read and understand the Greek you have it!)

Interpretation (*hermeneia glossōn*) – translation of spoken and/or heavenly languages.

Looking over the list, how does the exercise of each gift help paint the picture of who Christ is and what he is doing today? Or, if any one of the gifts was absent in the church, what part of Jesus would we be missing?

6. Speaking of gifts, and remembering that no bible list is complete . . .
 - What gifts make most sense to you - are you most comfortable with?
 - What gift(s) do you definitely not have and why?
 - What gift(s) would you be voted most likely to have?

Driving it home . . .

7. How can we pray for each other?
 - Discernment re discovering my God given gift for the good of the church?
 - Desire and courage to share my gift with my church?
 - Other?