

# Realizing the Importance of Responsibility

[I Corinthians 12:14-18; 26ff](#) – [I Corinthians 13](#)

The Holy Spirit led the Apostle Paul in a tremendous way. As he dealt with and ministered to the Corinthian believers, we can see how magnificently he was directed in emphasizing the body of Christ.

He emphasized *ONE body* and many members, with the point that when any one member suffered, then all were affected. ([I Corinthians 12:26](#))

Paul spoke of Spiritual Gifts and that these gifts distributed to individual Believers were based on the Grace of God and not the merit of the individual. In [I Corinthians 12:11](#), it says that He “*divides the Gifts to each as He wills.*” When we were saved, He bestowed on each believer at least one spiritual gift. This Gift being effective is dependent upon the believer having the Filling of the Holy Spirit and Vertical Viewpoint.

Mature believers can give full expression in this Gift.

The Adolescents give limited expression.

The baby believer gives almost no expression – and often is an emotionally-bent person with confusion in the soul, and is also an improper witness to others.

Since no two people have exactly the same function, God deals with us individually. Team members in an athletic contest depend upon each other, though each has his own personal position. God has a separate purpose for each and every born again believer, and there are no unimportant positions. All the parts of your body are necessary, or God would not have included so many different parts.

[I Corinthians 12: 27ff](#), give a list of important positions in the body. (READ [I Corinthians 12:14-27](#))

- “*First*” (means in the line of importance) – “*Apostles*” Their purpose was to keep the church stabilized before the canon was completed. It was the highest gift bestowed upon the New Testament Church and ceased with the consummation of the Canon.
- “*Prophecy*”, 2<sup>nd</sup> – This was the gift of Biblical teaching in the field of eschatology and preaching.

## Realizing the Importance of Responsibility (Continued)

- Third – “*Teaching*” This is the highest gift in the Church today. When it comes to the operation of the local church, our God has designed that there be ONE Pastor-Teacher.
- Then the 4<sup>th</sup> mentioned is *miracles* – the word used here is *dunamis* – δυνάμεις. This is the word for *POWER* – Dynamite.
- Then 5<sup>th</sup> – Healing, χαρίσματα ἰαμάτων – which means gifts of cures.
- Then 6<sup>th</sup> – The gift of “*helps*” a very important gift BUT often not noticed.
- Then 7<sup>th</sup> – The gift of “*Governments*” or governing, administration.
- Then 8<sup>th</sup> – kinds – *diversities of tongues*.

In these verses we have leadership gifts and spectacular gifts (miracles, healing, tongues, interpretation, etc.)

Note: When the Lord wanted the church to settle down and work – the spectacular was dissolved and the real remained. “Brother Foot” thought he should be able to speak in tongues, and since he didn’t (he would probably fake it) he failed and found himself confused and frustrated. The gift of tongues was for the purpose of evangelizing the Jews from 30AD until 70AD. This gift was speaking in Gentile language. [1 Corinthians 12:27-31](#) – languages to Jewish people; the Gospel of Salvation. It was also a warning to them.

[1 Cor.12:31](#) is an introduction to [Chapter 13](#).

[1 Cor.12:31 a](#) introduces [1 Cor. 14](#)

[1 Cor.12:31 b](#) introduces [1 Cor. 13](#)

Now the Spirit of God instructs the Apostle Paul to use the word “*COVET*”, and the word is Plural – the Church is being addressed as a group. The Church has the responsibility to utilize the best gifts to be operating within the congregation.

*“I show you a more excellent way – a way beyond comparison, which is the Filling of the Holy Spirit.”*

WHAT IS GOD’S PLAN OF SPIRITUALITY ???? *Filling of the Holy Spirit (FHS) !!!!!*