

LESSON 11

GIFTS THAT GIVE

1 CORINTHIANS 14:1–40



1 What spiritual gifts are used in a typical Sunday morning worship service at your church?

2 What gifts did you use last Sunday at church during worship?



Read 1 Corinthians 14:1–40 and the following notes:

☐ 14:1 ☐ 14:2 ☐ 14:22–25 ☐ 14:26ff ☐ 14:33

3 What kinds of gifts should believers desire (14:1, 13, 39)?

4 How should all gifts be used? (See 14:2–12, 26–32, 38, 39.)

5 In what ways should we limit our use of spiritual gifts? (See 14:13–19, 27–32.)

6 What is the relationship between the way we worship and the purpose of worship?



All of our spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities are given to us by God for the benefit of others. Our spiritual gifts are specifically for building up our brothers and sisters in Christ. God expects us to use them for this purpose. Because the believers in Corinth were spiritually immature, they were using their gifts to help themselves rather than others. As a result, when they gathered together for worship, they were divided rather than unified. God wants us to use our spiritual gifts to help and build up his people. Instead of expecting people to give to you, or focusing your gifts on yourself, use God’s gifts to benefit others.

7 How does a believer’s spiritual maturity affect the way he or she uses spiritual gifts in worship?

8 This chapter is linked to the previous chapter with the statement, “Let love be your highest goal, but also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives” (14:1). How are love and spiritual gifts related?



9 What opportunities do people in your church have to discover their gifts and put them into practice?

10 What are some ways you can make sure that worship in your church is “done properly and in order” (14:40)?



11 How can you use your spiritual gifts to enhance worship and help others?

12 What spiritual leader in your church could help you find a way to use your gifts in the church?

A What does it mean for women to be silent in the church? What is the role of women in your church? How does your church interpret these passages and make a place for women to use their spiritual gifts?

B What is the function of prophecy in the New Testament? How does it compare to Old Testament prophecy? If you have the gift of prophecy, how can you exercise it responsibly in your church?

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