



January 21 –
Sunday Sermon Study Guide Pastor Lee
Towns
Giveaway People:
For Kingdom Good

⁴ There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶ God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. ⁷ A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. ⁸ To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice^[b]; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge.^[c] ⁹ The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. ¹⁰ He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages,^[d] while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. ¹¹ It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11(NLT)

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into practice what we are discovering in God's word.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. We all have a gift which is to be given away to others for Kingdom Good. Before you can give away or use your spiritual gift(s) have you identified those? If you have not, ask others who know you well, they can often see what you may be missing.
 - The fullness of the Godhead (the Trinity) is represented in the giving of spiritual gifts, vs 4-6. Read through these verses; who is doing what? Are their roles different? How does Paul express unity here?
 - While a number of spiritual gifts are listed in this passage, it is by no means an exhaustive list. See 1 Corinthians 14; Romans 12; Ephesians 4.
 - Lee emphasizes that all believers receive a gift, an invitation to be participants, not spectators in God's family.
 - Do you see yourself, as special or merely "one of many"? How do you believe that God sees you?

2. You are unique, and so is God's gift to you.

- The lists of spiritual gifts often overlap; some gifts are not included in every list; in other lists the order of gifts is different. As you reread vs 11, what can we learn about God's intent?
- Psalm 139:14 declares that God made each of us for a purpose. What might that be for you? How might using (or not using) your spiritual gifts fulfill God's unique purpose for your life as you represent Him?

3. Spiritual gifts are not for our own benefit.

- The next few verses use the illustration of a body and its many parts. And the reason, Paul says in vs 25 says, is that *"the members may have the same care for one another."* As different as we are, we are to care for each other. How do we do that? Why are we instructed to use our gifts in this way?
- What could happen if we choose to keep a gift and not use it or give it away?

4. If we don't already know them, Lee emphasizes two steps in discovering our spiritual gifts.

- Spend time with God. How frequently do you engage with God in conversation and reading and studying His word?

- What does your involvement in community with others look like?

- Where have you found opportunity to learn about and use your spiritual gifts?

•

MAKING IT REAL

Spiritual gifts build the Kingdom by placing God on the throne through conversion leading to transformation which produces discipleship that results in reproduction.

- *When will you make time to discover your gift(s) this week?*

- *Once you have identified those gifts, how will you deploy them for Kingdom use?*