

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of January 31, 2016

1 Corinthians 12:27-28

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion.

Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.

Common English Bible (CEB)

²⁷ You are the body of Christ and parts of each other. ²⁸ In the church, God has appointed first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, the ability to help others, leadership skills, different kinds of tongues.

Connection Questions:

1. What are spiritual gifts?

2. Paul says it's important to recognize that we all have spiritual gifts. Discuss why you think it's important that we come to this recognition.

3. Paul's basic message to the church is that we are God's people and we all have spiritual gifts that are to be used for God's purposes as we work together. How is it possible, with all the diversity within the church, to work together for God's purposes?

4. Each person in the group share what you think your spiritual gift or gifts are. The group can assist each person as well in sharing what you think each person's gifts are.

5. Can our spiritual gifts hinder others from expressing their gifts in the church? If so, how? How can we be sensitive to the gifts of others?

6. Are there ways we can encourage others to express their gifts?

7. Give examples in our church where you know of people who you think recognize their spiritual gifts and how it's making a positive difference in our church.

8. "Love isn't love until you give it away." How does this phrase apply to our faith in God?

9. The church focuses on giving away everything it receives so God's love can have its way in a broken world. Give examples of how the church lives out this mission in a way that you think honors God. Give examples of things that you think hinder the church's mission.

10. Spiritual gifts are exactly that, gifts given by God. How does recognizing that we have God given gifts change how we use our talents?