

The Year of Sowing

Prayer Guide

Week 40

The Year of Sowing – The Gifts of the Spirit – Purpose

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ... the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

1 Corinthians 12:1; 7 (NKJV)



Prayer Focus: Our final topic of sowing is the sowing of the gifts of the Spirit. Although this is a topic that tends to cause confusion among believers, it is a topic that was important enough that the Apostle Paul did not want the Corinthian church to be ignorant of this important part of the life of the Body of Christ, the Church. The idea of ignorance has the idea of being uninformed, having the lack of knowledge of a thing. Paul did not want the Church to be uninformed about this important topic, and spends much time not only in Corinthians but in Romans and Ephesians to teach about the gifts of the Spirit. The first place for us to begin is to understand the purpose of the gifts of the Spirit. Paul is very clear in verse 7 that the purpose of the gifts given to each believer is for the profit of the corporate body... for the profit of all. In many cases we live in very individualistic cultures. We are concerned about our own careers, our own incomes, our own comfort, our own happiness. But Paul gives us a bigger picture. If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, the Spirit of God has given you at least one spiritual gift. Not for your private use, but for the strengthening and building up of the corporate Body of Christ. In other words, for me, or you to grow as God desires in our spiritual lives, you and I need to use our gifts to help one another grow. I cannot reach my full potential as a believer on my own. I need the other members of the Body of Christ and their gifts. And they need mine. The Kingdom of God is never about individualism, but about community. The gifts of the Spirit are a vital part of our understanding of our place in the Body of Christ.

Day 1: Ask the Lord to teach you in these coming weeks about your spiritual gifts and their place in your local church.

Day 2: Spend time reaching 1Corinthians 12-14; Romans 12, and Ephesians 4 regarding the gifts.

Day 3: Ask the Lord to open your heart and your mind to His desires for you and how you can find and use your spiritual gifts.

Day 4: Pray for a spirit of wisdom and understanding of this important topic in your life.

Day 5: Pray that your church would function in the true purpose of the gifts of the Spirit.

Day 6: Pray for believers in other churches in your city, that they will operate in their gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ in your city.

Day 7: Pray for missionaries to operate in the gifts of the spirit as they serve in their mission assignments.