

## DAILY READING PLAN

Week of September 13, 2020

Gifted

Acts 4:36-37; 9:26-31



### Day One | Read Romans 12:4-8

*<sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

- What is the purpose of your giftedness? Not sure what your gifts are? Check out this online assessment: <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>

### Day Two | Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

*<sup>1</sup>Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were still pagans, you were led astray and swept along in worshiping speechless idols. <sup>3</sup>So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. <sup>7</sup>A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. <sup>8</sup>To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. <sup>9</sup>The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. <sup>10</sup>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, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. <sup>11</sup>It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.*

- Using Paul's analogy of the body, why is it so important for you to exercise your gifts? Why is it foolish to be envious of someone else's gifts?

### Day Three | Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

*<sup>12</sup>The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. <sup>13</sup>Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. <sup>14</sup>Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. <sup>15</sup>If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? <sup>18</sup>But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. <sup>19</sup>How strange a body would be if it had only one part! <sup>20</sup>Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." <sup>22</sup>In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. <sup>23</sup>And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, <sup>24</sup>while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. <sup>25</sup>This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. <sup>26</sup>If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. <sup>27</sup>All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup>Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages. (continued...)*

### **Day Three continued**

*<sup>29</sup>Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not!*

- In your church experience, which gifts get lots of attention? Which gifts seem “weak”? How does God’s value system differ from ours? Whose value system are you using to evaluate your own gifts?

### **Day Four | Read 1 Peter 4:10-11**

*<sup>10</sup>God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. <sup>11</sup>Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.*

- How are you using your gifts to serve? How is God calling you to invest your gifts to serve someone today?

### **Day Five | Read 1 Corinthians 13**

*<sup>1</sup>If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. <sup>6</sup>It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup>Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. <sup>8</sup>Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! <sup>9</sup>Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! <sup>10</sup>But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. <sup>12</sup>Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. <sup>13</sup>Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.*

- Why do you think that Paul lists love as the most important gift? What one thing can you do today to exercise that gift?