



Sunday 6th April 2025

The Holy Spirit equips the body with gifts to serve the church – 1 Corinthians 12

1. God is concerned about unity in diversity

2. God is concerned about every part of the body

3. God is concerned about gifts that build up the church

Questions for our Growth Groups and personal reflection

1. God is concerned about unity in diversity

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

Why is Paul keen to connect the Holy Spirit with the lordship of Jesus? (v.3)

How do verses 4-6 emphasise “unity in diversity”?

What do you then notice about the variety of gifts of the Spirit in verses 8-10, 27-30, but also Romans 12:6-8?

Why do spiritual gifts often cause division rather than intended unity? How can we combat that happening at PBC?

2. God is concerned about every part of the body

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26.

To be clear, who exactly is part of the body of Christ? (Verse 13)

Why is the image of body parts trying to separate themselves from each other such a striking metaphor for the church?

What does this tell us about our value to the body?

What does this tell us about our involvement in the body?

3. God is concerned about gifts that build up the church

Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-31.

Why do you think Paul adds the words: “Now eagerly desire the greater gifts” (v.31) and “Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church” (14:12)?

How might you discern what gifts you have or that the Spirit might give you?

How are you using what God has given you to build up the church? What dangers are there for you in misusing God’s gifts?