



## **HOME GROUP QUESTIONS FROM SERMON SUNDAY 27 JULY 2025**

### **WHAT THREE THINGS DO WE NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE FOR GOD TO POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT?**

**1 Corinthians 12 v4-31**

**Icebreaker: What supernatural experiences of God's power have you seen recently? Have you stopped looking for God to speak in this way?**

#### **1. ONE LORD**

**4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.**

**Q1: Do we find it challenging that there is one Lord, but so many different expressions of Christianity across the world?**

**Q2: Some of the gifts are visually spectacular, some not, what are the opportunities and dangers for churches?**

#### **2. ONE BODY**

**12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body", that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body", that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts,[e] yet one body.**

**21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you", nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.**

**Q3: What challenges did the early church face?**

**Q4: Do you have a part of the body which is a particular challenge? How does that effect the rest of it?**

### **3. ONE LIFE**

**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 miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts.**

**Q5: What is our individual responsibility in relation to the supernatural gifts of the Spirit?**

**Q6: What does v31 mean in practise?**

**Q7: How does this passage challenge our thinking?**

### **A PRAYER**

**Loving Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit. Forgive me when I think of your church family as just a caring organisation and do not recognise you are supernaturally at work through its many members and their different gifts from you. Thank you that my faith in you is rational, emotional and supernatural. Help me to rejoice that we are all part of one body in Christ and God blesses us when all our different gifts are used to his glory. As I celebrate the one life which you have given to me, may it be given back to you for your glory. Forgive me for and heal me from away any coldness of heart or disappointment with life that has killed my spiritual expectancy. I open my life now to the peace, the power and the presence of your Holy Spirit. Help me look at life today and over the next few days not just with my eyes, with my heart; a heart wonderfully changed by the Holy Spirit, for the sake of your Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ and in the power of your Holy Spirit, Amen,**