

RESPONSIBILITY AND EXPECTANCY

"Gifted for Glorifying God" 4

February 28, 2010

1 Corinthians 12: 12- 27

You cannot separate the Holy Spirit from JESUS.

- John 16: 5ff
- We minister Jesus life!
- Our faith journey is a posture of being open, surrendered & EXPECTANT!

Verses 12- 13

1. **The Body of Christ is INTERCONNECTED.**

- Vss. 1-6 The Trinity is the model.
- Vss.7- 11 Diversity that brings unity.
- Vss.12- 13 Not independent experiences, but ministering Jesus together!

Verses 14- 20

2. **We need to fill the role(s) God GIVES TO US.**

- God's Spirit is displayed through a variety of gifts.
- God arranges the gifts as He chooses
- God wants to bless you, so you can bless the rest of us.

Verses 21- 27

3. **We cannot expect others to cover FOR US.**

- Even when it's "behind the scenes," your gift(s) is indispensable.
- If you don't show up or respond, the whole body is WEAKENED.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

Our expectation for our church must match our willingness to SERVE!

- Get rid of the FIRE-HOSE metaphor.
- Begin using specific opportunities to SERVE. (Cf. SERVING Insert)
- Invite the Holy Spirit to come and REVEAL & RELEASE his gifts among us.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 12: 12- 27

¹² The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

¹⁴ Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.

¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.

¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

¹⁸ But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be?

²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,

²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it,

²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.