

Introduction

When I was still a young Christian and playing professional golf, I was asked to take a turn and teach the weekly Bible study. Our group of golfers met together on Wednesday nights to study the word, worship, and fellowship. It was a nice group, and I am still in touch with many of them. I loved God's word, and was memorizing and meditating on Scripture, but I had never taught a Bible study before, and had no training whatsoever. I taught on spiritual gifts out of 1 Corinthians 12. After the study, Bob Schindler, a friend of mine, took me aside and taught me a more accurate way. That is what Priscilla and Aquila did for Apollos. He had taught on baptism, but he was only acquainted with the baptism of John. They pulled him aside and taught him the way of God more accurately. Bob shared with me that each believer has a primary gift, which some people call a motivational gift. Some people faithfully develop and exercise their gift, and it eventually becomes a ministry. Sometimes, a person manifests a gift, even though it is not the gift that they regularly flow in. I had never heard any teaching about this, and I felt humbled. In fact, I thought I had blown that teaching opportunity, and I did not want to teach after that.

(Acts 18:25–26) “This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; {26} and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.”

God had already spoken to me out of Ezra 7:10 and impressed on me that He was making me a teacher, and I was to devote my life to studying, applying, and teaching God's word. So, even though I felt like I had blown it, I knew that God wanted me to study and teach His word. I knew there was a calling to teach. Over the next few years, God put me through lots of training. I learned about teaching, preaching, leading small groups, evangelism, discipleship, and was ordained in 1986. I have faithfully studied, practiced, and taught God's word, and I have had a teaching ministry. My spiritual gift turned into a gift ministry.

(Ezra 7:10) “For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.”

Last week we looked at the first three verses, where Paul turned his attention to address spiritual gifts. The spiritual gifts were being abused in Corinth, and Paul wanted to give them some understanding about the gifts, and in particular the use of the gifts in their meetings. Paul gave three reasons why he addressed spiritual gifts. First, he did not want them to be unaware or ignorant about them. Second, he did not want them being led astray by the use of spiritual gifts. Third, he wanted them to be able to discern when something was from the Holy Spirit and when it was not from the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God confesses that Jesus is Lord. We saw in other passages that the Spirit of God confesses that Jesus has come in the flesh. We use the Word of God to help us discern what is of the Spirit and what is not.

Today, we will be covering verses four through eleven, and it is about understanding the source of spiritual gifts, which is the Holy Spirit. We will see that there are three categories of spiritual gifts, and the source of all of them is the Holy Spirit. There are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit. There are varieties of ministries, but the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. This morning we will be looking at the gifts, ministries, and effects, and all of these are given by the Holy Spirit.

The Source of all Spiritual Gifts

1. Gifts from the same Spirit
2. Ministries from the same Lord
3. Manifestations from the same God

(1 Cor 12:4–11) “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. {5} And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. {6} There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. {7} But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. {8} For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; {9} to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, {10} and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. {11} But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”

1. Gifts from the same Spirit (1 Cor 12:4, Rom 12:

Paul begins by teaching that there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are varieties of restaurants. If we go to a Chinese restaurant, there will be a variety of Chinese dishes. If we go to a Mexican restaurant, there will be a variety of Mexican food. You can get tacos, enchiladas, Fajitas, or burritos. In the same way, there are varieties of gifts. There are manifestation gifts, ministry gifts, and individual or motivational gifts. Within each of these categories of gifts, there are varieties of gifts.

(1 Cor 12:4) “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.”

The Greek word that is translated as varieties is diaresis (Strong’s G1243), which means distinction, variety, difference, or diversity. There is a diversity of gifts, but the same Spirit. Even though there are a diversity or varieties of gifts, they are all given by the same Spirit. The word **same** is used six times in the passage. In verse four, it is the same Spirit. In verse five, when talking about ministries, it is the same Lord. In verse six, it is the same God that gives varieties of effects. In verse eight, the word of knowledge is given according to the same spirit. In verse nine, faith is given by the same Spirit. In verse eleven, it is the same Spirit that works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. We see the Godhead in three different expressions. In the same way that God is one God in three persons, the body of Christ has many different and diverse members but it is still one body. All the gifts are given and distributed by the Holy Spirit. The source of all gifts, ministries, and effects is the Holy Spirit, who is member of the Godhead.

(1 Cor 12:4–11) “Now there are **varieties** of gifts, but the **same Spirit**. {5} And there are varieties of ministries, and the **same Lord**. {6} There are varieties of effects, but the **same God** who works all things in all persons. {7} But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. {8} For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the **same Spirit**; {9} to another faith by the **same Spirit**, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, {10} and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. {11} But one and the **same Spirit** works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”

The body of Christ is made up of many different, diverse parts of the body. Unfortunately, in many churches, they take on the characteristic of the lead pastor. If the pastor is prophetic, the church tends to be prophetic. If the pastor is evangelistic, the church tends to be evangelistic. If the pastor is a teacher, the church tends to emphasize teaching. God created the body to be full of different and diverse gifts, and we are to be one in Christ, even though we all have different roles. A healthy body is diverse, and has all the members of the body, not just left hands.

Paul does not go into detail about the motivational gifts in this passage. The gifts that are mentioned in verses eight through eleven are the manifestation gifts. Many scholars would say that the motivational gifts are given in Romans 12:6-8, and the ministry gifts are given in Ephesians 4:11-13. Because our passage does not go into detail about the motivational gifts, I will go over them briefly.

Motivational Gifts (Rom 12:6-8)	Ministry Gifts (Eph 4:11-13)	Manifestation Gifts (1 Cor 12:8-10)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prophesying • Serving • Teaching • Encouraging • Giving • Leading • Showing Mercy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostle • Prophet • Evangelist • Pastor • Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word of wisdom • Word of knowledge • Faith • Healing • Miracles • Prophecy • Distinguishing of spirits • Various kinds of tongues • Interpretation of tongues

In 1 Peter 4:10-11, God tells us that each one of us has received a special gift, and we are to employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. The Greek word for gift is charisma (Strong's G5486). The root word for charisma is charis, which means grace. Spiritual gifts are gifts of grace that are given to believers by God. Each believer is given a special gift, and it is given for the common good, to serve one another with. Believers are stewards of those gifts. It is important for us to be good stewards of the gift that God has entrusted to each one of us.

(1 Pet 4:10) "As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

Peter gives a couple of examples of using those individual gifts. He said, "Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." When we use these individual gifts, we are to doing them for God and by God's grace and strength.

(1 Pet 4:11) "Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

In Romans 12:6-8, we have a more comprehensive list of these gifts. These individual gifts are: prophecy, service, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, and mercy. Some scholars say this is a complete list, while many others believe that this is a sample, but not all inclusive. They would include intercession, music, and many other things in the gifts. I believe that these seven gifts are spiritual gifts that are given to believers, but I do not believe it is an exclusive list. I do not rule out the possibility that there are other gifts that could be included. Each one of us is uniquely different, and the way that the gifts are used will vary considerably from person to person.

(Rom 12:6–8) “Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; {7} if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; {8} or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

Bill Gothard taught in his seminars that each one of us is given a motivational gift. *At the moment of salvation, a believer receives one of seven motivational gifts: prophecy, serving, teaching, exhorting, giving, organizing, or mercy. This gift of God’s grace shapes how the believer views life, relates to others, and impacts the Body of Christ. A motivational gift can be compared to a set of eyeglasses from God, given so that the believer can see people and circumstances through that particular set of “lenses.”*

A person may have more than one gift, but only one motivational gift. This gift determines how we react and respond to different scenarios. For example, when someone carrying the dinner tray trips accidentally and falls down, the person with the gift of mercy immediately begins to comfort the person. The person with a teaching gift wants to tell the person why they tripped and about paying attention and walking more carefully. The person with a gift of service immediately begins to clean up the mess. The person with a gift of giving sees the dinner is spoiled and offers to go pick up dinner for everyone. Everyone has responded differently because of their motivational gift.

Here are some simple definitions of those seven gifts:

- **Prophecy:** Speaks the utterances of God, declares truth, declares a word from the Lord about a matter or situation, gives direction and confirmation of direction.
- **Serving:** Meets practical needs in the body, either individual or corporate.
- **Teaching:** Studies and teaches the Word of God. This may be done one-on-one, small groups, or with large groups. Likes to categorize and give understanding of a passage.
- **Exhorting:** Likes to motivate, encourage, build up, and strengthen others. Often communicates with urgency to prod people to action.
- **Giving:** Likes to sow financially into the kingdom, meeting individual and corporate needs. Givers often live very modestly so that they can give liberally.
- **Leading:** Lead people and organizations. They are visionary people who communicate well with others. They are good organizers and delegators.
- **Mercy:** Shows God’s love and compassion to those that are hurting. They are usually very sensitive to others, and identify with their pains.

2. **Ministries from the same Lord** (1 Cor 12:5, Eph 4:11-13)

The second category are the varieties of ministries. Even though there are varieties of ministries, it is the same Lord. There is unity in the diversity of gifts and ministries.

(1 Cor 12:5) “And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.”

Most scholars link this to the list of ministry gifts in Ephesians 4:11-13. These four or five ministries are: apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher. In the Greek, the pastor and teacher are grouped together, so many people say that the pastor-teacher is one ministry gift, not two. These are governmental gifts that have been given by God to equip the body for the work of ministry. These gifts are given to seasoned believers, and are generally confirmed through the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

(Eph 4:11-13) “And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ.”

In the individual gifts, teaching is mentioned, and it is also mentioned in the list of ministry gifts. These are two different levels. Someone who has exercised and developed his teaching gift no longer operates just in the gift; he operates in the ministry of that gift. A ministry gift is one that is recognized by the body at large and is for the body at large. A person with a gift of teaching may like to study and teach. The person teaches Sunday School and Bible studies. Eventually, the church begins to use this person extensively in teaching. The person teaches and preaches regularly because the person has a teaching ministry. There are some big differences between a person with a gift of teaching and a ministry of teaching. There is a difference in the scope of the use of the gift. There is a difference in the maturity and development of the gift. There is a difference in the anointing of the individuals. There is also a public recognition of people in these ministries through the laying on of hands.

There is an individual gift of prophecy, and there is also a ministry gift of prophet. Similar to the teacher, the prophet at the ministry level is a very seasoned prophet. At this level, God will give words that are not just for individuals, but may be for churches, states, or countries. Jeremiah is a great example. When God called Jeremiah, He told him that He had appointed him to be a prophet to the nations. That is not just a gift; that is a much bigger sphere. Jeremiah was called a prophetic ministry to the nations.

(Jer 1:5-10) “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.... {10} See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

A number of years ago I had a man in the church who said he had the gift of prophecy. He believed he could prophesy over nations and kingdoms, and could pluck up and break down, destroy and overthrow, build and plant. He was getting this from what God told Jeremiah. He gave a word of correction to a very seasoned apostle based on his understanding of his calling. Jeremiah was a prophet to the nations. He was in the ministry role of prophet, not just the gift of prophesy. This man in my church had the gift of prophesy, and the nature of that gift is very

different. In 1 Corinthians 14:3, God tells us what the gift of prophecy does; it edifies, exhorts, and comforts. The gift of prophecy to individuals does not prophesy over nations, destroy and overthrow, etc.; it builds up others.

(1 Cor 14:3) But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.”

There are some people that say that the ministry gifts would include other non-governmental ministries. If a person had the gift of service, and he continually served others and it led to a service ministry, it would be included in this. A recognized servant in the church is a deacon or deaconess, and that is a ministry. The Greek word for ministries is diakonia (Strong's G1248), which means service or ministry. It comes from the Greek word, diakonos, which means servant, and is the word that is transliterated as deacon. I support this position, but I also make a distinction between the governmental equipping ministry gifts and the local church ministry gift.

I mentioned that at the ministry level, there is a public recognition by the laying on of hands. In Acts 6, the congregation chose seven men to serve the widows food, and they presented them to the apostles. They then laid hands on them and officially set them in to take care of the widows. These were the first deacons that are mentioned in the Scriptures.

3. Manifestations from the same God (1 Cor 12:6-11)

(1 Cor 12:6–11) “There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. {7} But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. {8} For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; {9} to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, {10} and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. {11} But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”

The varieties of gifts are given by the Spirit. The varieties of ministries are given by the same Lord. Third, the varieties of effects or manifestations are given by the same God. The Greek word for manifestation is phanerosis (Strong's G5321), which means an exhibition, expression, or manifestation. Any believer can manifest any of these gifts at any time. When God gives a prophetic word to a believer, it does not mean that they have the gift of prophecy or are in the ministry of a prophet. It is simply a manifestation.

In Numbers 11, Moses gathered seventy men of the elders of Israel and stationed them around the tent of meeting. The Lord came down and spoke to Moses, and He took of the Spirit who was upon Moses and placed it upon the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested upon them, they began to prophesy, but they did not do it again. They were not prophets; they just had a manifestation of prophecy at that moment.

(Num 11:24–25) “So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. Also, he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people, and stationed them around the tent. {25} Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him; and He took of the Spirit who was upon him and placed Him upon the seventy elders. And when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do it again.”

My spiritual gift is teaching. I want to help people understand and apply the Scriptures to their lives. I love to study the Word of God, and God has gifted me to do this. Occasionally I will get a prophetic word for myself, or others. I do not flow in the gift of prophecy; I just have occasional manifestations. One day Karen and I were walking around the neighborhood, and the Holy Spirit began speaking to me about the small group meeting that was scheduled the next night. He said that the leader was going to have a game night, and they were going to play the newlywed game. The Holy Spirit gave me the three questions for the guys and then the three questions for the women. Karen and I discussed each one of the questions and determined how we were going to answer the questions. The next night we went to the small group meeting, and it turned out exactly like the Holy Spirit told me. Karen and I answered the first six questions perfectly because we had agreed upon the answers while walking. I had a word of knowledge about the small group meeting. It was just a manifestation of the Holy Spirit. It did not make me a prophet. That kind of manifestation could come on any one of us at any time. I did not ask for that manifestation; the Holy Spirit distributed that to me as He willed.

What are the nine manifestation gifts? The first is a word of wisdom. It is wisdom that God supernaturally gives a person at a particular moment to address a particular situation. The second manifestation gift is a word of knowledge. One day I was on the treadmill in my workout room and the Holy Spirit told me that I was going to get a phone call from a man named Nathan. The Lord told me what he was going to ask me, and how I was supposed to respond. This was a word of knowledge. A few minutes later, I received a call from Nathan, and the conversation went exactly as the Spirit had told me. I did not ask the Holy Spirit for this word of knowledge; the Holy Spirit determined that I needed it, and gave it to me.

(1 Cor 12:8) “For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit;”

The third manifestation is faith. The Holy Spirit will give faith for a particular situation or circumstance, and it will give you the boldness to move ahead with something that seems impossible.

(1 Cor 12:9) “to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,”

The fourth manifestation gift is healing. The Holy Spirit may use any one of us at any time as His instrument to bring healing to a person. This might be physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual. I have experienced several miraculous healings in my life. These were just manifestations of the Holy Spirit that I experienced.

(1 Cor 12:9) “to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,”

One day I was in Houston, Texas and driving from our office to the airport. I was in tremendous pain, and had been all day. All at once my lower back felt like it was on fire, and then all the pain was completely gone. It was a manifestation of healing. These manifestations are most often given by you for someone else, but I have experienced these manifestations of the Holy Spirit for me personally.

One Saturday I was praying for one of our church members who had just received a report that his colon cancer was stage three. It had spread through his colon and it was found in all eighteen lymph nodes that they had tested. They gave him a few months to live at the most. The Lord told me that I was His servant, and He wanted me to lay hands on him and pray a particular way over him. The next day, I went up to the man and told me that God told me to pray for him, and that I wanted to pray for him after the meeting, which I did. On the way home I told Karen that they were not going to find any cancer in this man because I believed that God healed him the minute I prayed for him. The man went in for a pet scan on the next day, and they could not find a trace of cancer anywhere in his body. God had miraculously healed him. God can use any of us as His instruments to bring healing to anyone at any time. We need to step out and pray for the sick, as God promises to heal people when we pray for them. We need to step out and pray for God to heal them. I believe that many sick people have not been healed because we have not prayed for them.

(James 5:14–16) “Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; {15} and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. {16} Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.”

The fifth manifestation gift is miracles. It is a supernatural faith to see something supernaturally happen.

(1 Cor 12:10) “and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.”

When Paul was in Troas and had prolonged his message until midnight, a young man named Eutychus fell asleep and fell out the window of the third floor where they were meeting, and died. Paul went down and fell upon him, and said, “Do not be troubled, for his life is in him.” They took Eutychus away and were greatly comforted. That was a miraculous manifestation.

(Acts 20:10–12) “But Paul went down and fell upon him, and after embracing him, he said, “Do not be troubled, for his life is in him.” {11} When he had gone back up and had broken the bread and eaten, he talked with them a long while until daybreak, and then left. {12} They took away the boy alive, and were greatly comforted.”

The sixth manifestation gift is prophecy. Prophecy is the only gift that is mentioned in all three categories. It is an individual gift, ministry gift, and manifestation gift. The seventy elders of Israel all had a manifestation of prophecy, but they did not prophesy again. When there is a need for a word of encouragement, or word of direction, the Holy Spirit may give anyone of us a prophetic word. It is important for us to understand all of these gifts and be able to used by God to give a prophetic word, even if it is not our gifting.

(1 Cor 12:10) “and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.”

In the late 90's there was pressure on many in the ministry to prophesy. If a pastor prophesied, people thought that this was an anointed man of God. Because I did not give many prophetic words, one man that was coming to our first church plant told me that I had no anointing. He saw anointing in Karen, but not in my life. God called me to be a teacher, and I focus my ministry on teaching. I earnestly desire to prophesy, but I am not going to fabricate something and call it a prophetic word. This false teaching about prophesy and anointing came out of an erroneous understanding about gifts, ministries, and manifestations.

I witnessed a lot of prophecy that I do not believe was a manifestation of the Holy Spirit. I believe that I saw a lot of "prophecy" that was inspired by fleshly motives and natural minds. I have had prophecies about the marriage ministry that I was going to have. I have had prophecies about the sin in my life that was preventing my daughter from being healed. I have had prophecies about how I walk like an elephant and eat like a cricket. These so-called prophecies were not edifying to me. They were not given in the right spirit. These were given by ministers who wanted to make themselves look good, and did not understand prophetic ministry.

The Scriptures teach us to judge prophecy. In 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22, we are exhorted not to despise prophetic utterances and to examine everything carefully. We are to hold fast to that which is good and to abstain from every form of evil. In 1 Corinthians 14:29, we are told to let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. When false prophecies were given to me, I examined them carefully, judged them, and then let them go. Because of the damage done in certain situations, I brought the false prophecies to the attention of the senior pastors. God wants us to earnestly desire to prophesy, and he wants to give prophetic utterances and manifestations. At the same time, He does not want us unaware or to be led astray by them. He wants us to discern what is of the Holy Spirit and what is not of the Spirit.

(1 Thess 5:20–22) “do not despise prophetic utterances. {21} But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.”

(1 Cor 14:29) “Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.”

The seventh manifestation is the distinguishing or discerning of spirits. It is the special ability that God gives to someone to discern a particular spirit. One day I was in my office in Orlando, Florida, and one of the maintenance crew members came into my office. I happened to be fasting that day, and as soon as he came into the office, the Holy Spirit said that there is a demonic spirit chasing him. I called Joe Warner and we made an appointment for the next day. Unfortunately, the young man took his own life early the next morning before we had that ministry time. God had given me that discernment of spirits for a reason, and it was urgently needed at that very moment. I had to repent of not treating this with the urgency it needed.

(1 Cor 12:10) “and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.”

I have seen a lot of damage in the body of Christ coming out of people who believe they have the gift of discernment of spirits. They have accused this person of having this spirit, and another person of having this demonic spirit. We have to be very careful about the use of gifts, and much damage can be done when they are falsely used.

The eighth manifestation is different kinds of tongues, and the ninth is the interpretation of tongues. It is a special ability that God gives to someone to speak in another language, or to interpret something spoken in a different language.

(1 Cor 12:10) “and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.”

We find the best example of this in Acts at Pentecost. There were people from all over the world that were gathered together to celebrate the feast. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers, they were speaking in tongues, and Parthians, Medes, Elamites, Mesopotamians, Judeans, Cappadocians, Romans, Asians, Phrygians, Pamphylans, Egyptians, Libyans, Cretans, and Arabs were all hearing about the mighty deeds of God in their own tongues.

(Acts 2:4–11) “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. {5} Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. {6} And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. {7} They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? {8} And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? {9} Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, {10} Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, {11} Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.”

In 1 Corinthians 14 Paul gives some attention to tongues. In this case, people were praying and prophesying in tongues and nobody could understand the messages. At Pentecost, people understood, but in this case, there was no understanding. Paul said it would be better to speak five words with his mind, than ten thousand words in a tongue when people could not understand. Paul encouraged them to interpret if they spoke in a tongue. The goal in our assemblies is to edify, and no one else is edified if someone speaks in a tongue and they cannot understand it.

(1 Cor 14:13–19) “Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret... {19} however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.”

One Sunday, our church in Acworth had a joint service with Zion Hills Baptist Church, a predominantly black church that had started just before the Civil War. During the service, one of their members gave a prophetic word in tongues. One of our members immediately had an interpretation for that prophetic word. It was a beautiful thing to see both of these manifestations done properly where God was glorified, and the congregations edified.

Conclusion and Applications

The body of Christ is one body, but it has many different and diverse members. Believers are given a unique spiritual gift by the Holy Spirit, and they are to faithfully use their gift to serve the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit also gives ministries to some for the building up of the body of Christ. At other times, the Holy Spirit gives different manifestations that are needed at that

particular moment. God can use any of us for these manifestations. These gifts, ministries, and manifestations are given by the Holy Spirit, and He distributes them individually as He wills. We need to be aware of the gifts, and to use them for the common good of everyone in the church.

Prayer

Father God, thank You for the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Holy Spirit, thank You for the gifts that You have given to us. Help us to be good stewards of these gifts. Help us to develop and to faithfully use these gifts. Help us to earnestly desire spiritual gifts, and especially that we would prophesy, so that others will be edified. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Introduction (Acts 18:25–26, Ezra 7:10, 1 Cor 12:4–11)1. **Gifts from the same Spirit** (1 Cor 12:4-11, Rom 12:6-8, Eph 4:11-13, 1 Pet 4:10-11)

Motivational Gifts (Rom 12:6-8)	Ministry Gifts (Eph 4:11-13)	Manifestation Gifts (1 Cor 12:8-10)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prophesying • Serving • Teaching • Encouraging • Giving • Leading • Showing Mercy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostle • Prophet • Evangelist • Pastor • Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word of wisdom • Word of knowledge • Faith • Healing • Miracles • Prophecy • Distinguishing of spirits • Various kinds of tongues • Interpretation of tongues

2. **Ministries from the same Lord** (1 Cor 12:5, Eph 4:11-13, Jer 1:5-10, 1 Cor 14:3)3. **Manifestations from the same God** (1 Cor 12:6-11, Num 11:24–25, James 5:14–16, Acts 20:10–12, 1 Thess 5:20–22, 1 Cor 14:29, Acts 2:4–11, 1 Cor 14:13–19)**Conclusion and Applications**