

# Pentecost

May 24, 2026

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## 1 Corinthians 12:3b-12

...No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to

another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

<sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

## REFLECT & DISCUSS

1. Read the passage slowly. Then take a deep breath and read it again. What word, phrase, or image stands out to you?
2. What do you know about these spiritual gifts that Paul describes? What experience do you have, if any, with people practicing or proclaiming these spiritual gifts?
3. What spiritual gifts do you have? Perhaps your giftings do not fit neatly into the categories Paul describes—how would you describe or name your spiritual gifts?

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4. The “manifestation of the Spirit” has a purpose: “the common good” (v.7). Why does this matter? How does this push against modern versions of “privatized spirituality” (ie, faith is only between me and God, and no one else).
5. Share more about the ways you have, are, or hope to serve in and through the church. What has that service taught you about faith, community, and God? What have you learned about yourself?

13:13). How does love bridge the divides, conflicts, and concerns that diverse people and differing gifts might generate in a faith community?

6. Have you filled out the South Elkhorn Christian Church survey, sharing your interests, giftings, and desire to serve? You can do so here:  
<https://forms.gle/mwUtdS1HbCj2Nz22A>



7. Paul spends all this time talking about gifts because the Corinthian church was suffering from conflict, divisions, and degrading behavior toward one another. You might be familiar with the famous passage from 1 Corinthians 13, in which Paul lifts up the centrality of love in the spiritual life, even declaring, “Now these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians

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