

# Sermon Study Questions

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
2. Paul starts this section by describing what it means to be spiritual. What did it mean to the Corinthians? What does it mean to those in our culture? What does it mean according to the text?
3. How do the spiritual gifts come to us, and why are they given to us?
4. Each and every Christian has a gift or gifts given by God for the common good. What are some challenges to rightly interpreting and applying the spiritual gifts?
5. What does Paul mean by the utterance of wisdom and the utterance of knowledge?
6. What is the gift of faith?
7. What is meant by gifts of various types of healing and the gifts of miracles (or more literally, gifts of powerful acts)? Do these gifts operate in the same way they did during the apostolic age? Explain, and also give an example of how these gifts would operate today?
8. Paul will spend much of ch.14 on the gifts of prophecy and tongues so we didn't get too into them here. But from what you heard, what, in general is the gift of prophecy, and what are the gifts of tongues and interpretation as we see them exercised in the book of Acts?
9. What are your gift/gifts? If you don't know, how can you discover them? What is a specific way you can use your gifts for the common good of the church?
10. Pray!

**Reading of Law: Galatians 5:16**

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

**Prayer of Confession:**

Our gracious Father in heaven, blessed be your glorious and holy name. We thank you for your steadfast love and faithfulness to us as your people. We come before you this morning confessing our sin, for we confess that the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. Our sinful hearts rage within us and the sinful urges we feel constantly seek to pull us away from you and from doing that which is pleasing to you. We cave

in to temptation and gratify our flesh rather than glorify you. We do not walk by the Spirit, living by His power within us; the very power that rose Christ from the grave, but instead we give in to the flesh and succumb to that which arises from our old nature so that the good we want to do we do not do but we do the very things we don't want to do. Father, we make no excuses. We do not seek to rationalize or justify our sin, but it is our fault and we own it, confess it, and ask for your forgiveness, as you alone have the authority to forgive sins. We thank you that you are an exceedingly gracious God and one who stands ready to forgive and pardon us. We thank you that in Christ you remove our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west. It is in Jesus' name we pray and give thanks, Amen.

### **Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 103:11-12**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

### **WLC: 126**

**Q.** 126. What is the general scope of the fifth commandment?

**A.** The general scope of the fifth commandment is the performance of those duties which we mutually owe in our several relations, as inferiors, superiors, or equals.

[Eph. 5:21](#); [1 Pet. 2:17](#); [Rom. 12:10](#).

### **OT Reading: Psalm 115**

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! <sup>2</sup> Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" <sup>3</sup> Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases. <sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. <sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. <sup>6</sup> They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. <sup>7</sup> They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. <sup>8</sup> Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them. <sup>9</sup> O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. <sup>10</sup> O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. <sup>11</sup> You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. <sup>12</sup> The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron; <sup>13</sup> he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great. <sup>14</sup> May the LORD give you increase, you and your children! <sup>15</sup> May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth! <sup>16</sup> The heavens are the LORD's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man. <sup>17</sup> The dead do not praise the LORD, nor do any who go down into silence. <sup>18</sup> But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!