



## First Corinthians

### Learning To Be Light in a Dark World

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#### **One Body, Many Gifts**

1 Corinthians 12:12–31

August 2, 2015

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**Theme:** Paul continues his discussion of Spiritual gifts by introducing the metaphor of the body. Just as the human body has many parts that all function together as a unity, so the Body of Christ—the Church—has many individuals with different gifts, all functioning together to accomplish God’s purposes. No gifts are independent of others and no gifts are unnecessary.

#### **Outline**

1. The One Body with Many Parts (12:12-14)
  - a. The metaphor of the body, v. 12, 14
  - b. Baptized by one Spirit into one body, v. 13a
  - c. Social and ethnic unity, v. 13b

## 2. The Diversity and Interdependence of Body (12:15-26)

- a. No part is independent, vv. 15-16, 21
- b. No part is unnecessary, v. 22
- c. No part functions alone (the need for diversity), v. 17
- d. No part has greater honor, vv. 23-24
- e. No part suffers alone, vv. 25-26
- f. The goals: unity and effectiveness, v. 25

## 3. Conclusion: Many Gifts, One Body, 12:27-31

- a. Summary
- b. Various gifts
- c. Diversity and necessity of the gifts

**Takeaway:** As we seek our Spiritual gifts and learn to use them, we need to remind ourselves that the purpose of the gifts is to enable the whole Church to function together and to fulfill the role God has given us.

**Next Cove: August 9, 2015**

Love: A More Excellent Way  
I Corinthians 13:1–13