

**Spiritual Gifts**  
**Part 2 – I Wish I Were...**  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31

**Introduction**

- A. What did you do with last week's assignment? (pick)
1. I meant to do it, but forgot.
  2. I never intended to do the assignment.
  3. I completed the assignment.
- B. The Corinthian Christians spent a lot of time wishing that they spoke in t\_\_\_\_\_ and missed out on the point of being part of the body. Paul uses the human body to illustrate:
1. The futility of w\_\_\_\_\_ for a spiritual gift that you do not have.
  2. The negative consequence of trying to e\_\_\_\_\_ a spiritual gift that you don't have.

**If you keep wishing for a spiritual gift you do not have:**

**A. You'll do a poor job of exercising the gift(s) you do have (15-18)**

1. What if a foot wishes to be a hand? (v. 15)
  - a. The foot t\_\_\_\_\_ itself as not part of the body.
  - b. However, the foot is as much a part of the body as the hand, regardless of what it thinks.
2. What if the ear wishes to be an eye? (v. 16)
  - a. The ear t\_\_\_\_\_ itself as not part of the body.
  - b. However, the ear is as much a part of the body as the eye, regardless of what it thinks.
3. What if the whole body were just one part? (v. 17)
  - a. An eye – from where would the h\_\_\_\_\_ come?
  - b. An ear – from where would the sense of s\_\_\_\_\_ come?
4. Every body part serves an important part of the proper functioning of the entire b\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18)
  - a. Stop w\_\_\_\_\_ for gifts you do not have
  - b. Realize that God d\_\_\_\_\_ your place in the body.

**B. You'll do a poor job of imitating the gifts you don't have (19,20)**

1. Believers are one b\_\_\_\_\_ collectively (v. 19)
  - a. The Corinthians all wanted to exercise the spiritual gift of speaking in tongues.
    - 1) V. 30 asks a question that expects the answer \_\_\_\_\_ (in Greek language the answer to rhetorical questions are given in the text). Not everyone can speak in tongues!

- 2) 1 Cor 14:30 gives a hypothetical situation of everyone in the church trying to speak in tongues when an unbeliever is present.
  - a) The unbeliever will think believers are c\_\_\_\_\_
  - b) 14:22 states that tongues are a s\_\_\_\_\_ to the unbeliever (see Acts 2:4-8)
- b. Today, many try to imitate the spectacular gifts and r\_\_\_\_\_ them to something ordinary.
  - 1) Gift of healing is reduced to e\_\_\_\_\_ healing (however, all gifts of healing resulted in instant healing).
  - 2) Word of knowledge is reduced to in\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) Word of wisdom is reduced to good a\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4) Prophecy is reduced to p\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 5) Gift of tongues are reduced to b\_\_\_\_\_ nonsensical syllables.
2. Believers are individually a m\_\_\_\_\_ of that body (v. 20)
  - a. There are gifts that we have no control over (spectacular gifts) and there are gifts that we have s\_\_\_\_\_ over (stewardship gifts).
  - b. The stewardship gifts are the six gifts listed in last week's assignment.
    - 1) We all may **have to** do all of these six activities at one time or another because of the situation (e.g. explaining a passage of scripture; comforting someone)
      - a) A right-handed person may **have to** use his left hand.
      - b) A right-handed person f\_\_\_\_\_ on right-handed activity.
    - 2) We each are to f\_\_\_\_\_ on using the gift God has given us.

### **Your gift is significant (21-26)**

- A. Paul divides the body into two categories
  1. Those body parts which seem important and those that seem less important and shows that they n\_\_\_\_\_ one another and therefore are of equal importance (v. 21)
  2. Those body parts which are weaker and those which are stronger and shows that both are needed for the proper f\_\_\_\_\_ of the body (v. 22)
  3. Those body parts that are visible and those that are hidden and shows that greater c\_\_\_\_\_ is given to the hidden parts (vv. 23,24)

- B. Paul applies this illustration to every single person in the body as being significant (vv. 25-27)
1. We are Christ's b\_\_\_\_\_ collectively
  2. We are individually m\_\_\_\_\_ belonging to one another.

**Assignment** – If you did not do this before, prayerfully check the appropriate boxes in each column in preparation for the last message in this series.

	<b>Gifts I Might Have</b>	<b>Gifts I Wish I Had</b>	<b>Gifts I Don't Have</b>
<b>Service</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Teaching</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Leading</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Exhorting</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Giving</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Mercy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Servicing** – focuses on relieving the leadership from the burden of physical tasks (e.g. cleaning, administrative tasks)

**Teaching** – focuses on explaining God's word in an understandable way.

**Leading** - focuses on leading a group in a spiritual direction (e.g. children, youth, those with addictions, a church)

**Exhorting** - focuses on spiritually encouraging others (e.g. counseling, general encouragement, evangelism)

**Giving** – focuses on using material things for spiritual purposes (e.g. giving to missions, ministries, the needy).

**Mercy** – focuses on ministering to the hurting (e.g. the sick, the imprisoned, the needy).