

Desiring the Higher Gifts

September 19th, 2021 – Pastor Nick Neves

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

What should a Christian think about _____?
How does our need for salvation impact the way we think about it?

According to 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, what should be the driving force that compels the Christian?

Verse 27 is the first point at which the Apostle Paul personalizes the body metaphor for the Corinthians:

1 Corinthians 12:27 – Now *you* are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Each of the metaphors of the church help our understanding not only of what the church IS, but also what the church is supposed to be _____

There are two Greek words used in the New Testament to describe spiritual gifting:

Charismata (used extensively in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12)

Domata (used in Ephesians 4:8)

The first phase of God's gifting, as described here in 1 Corinthians 12, refers to the 'domata' of church leadership. And God has appointed in the church...

First, Apostles

Second, prophets

Third, teachers

Paul then shifts his attention to the 'charismata' gifts, gifts that represent a skill or ability that the Holy Spirit initiates or enhances in a faithful Christian.

Gifts of miracles

Gifts of healing

Helping

Administering

Tongues

Every gift the Spirit generously gives to us should be _____

Every gift the Spirit generously gives to us should be _____

When Paul encourages us to *desire* the higher gifts, note:

He does not say _____ the higher gifts

He does not say _____ the higher gifts

The best leaders in the context of the church are the best followers of Jesus. Mark their devotion, watch it, learn from it, imitate it, knowing that your efforts to reproduce their obedience is effectively reproducing the characteristics of our Savior.