

Gaining A Greater Grasp On The Gospel of Grace

A Series of Studies From Romans

Graciously Gifted For God's Glory:

Pursuing Love When We Employ Our Spiritual Gifts

Lessons to Learn From Romans 12:6–9; 1 Corinthians 12:27–14:3;

With Support From 1 John 4:7–21

6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise (employ) them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of the faith; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. 9 **Let love be without hypocrisy.** —Romans 12:6–9a

12:27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. 29 All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they? 30 All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? 31 **But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.** 13:1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ...

14:1 **Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts,** but especially that you may prophesy. 2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. 3 But one who prophesies speaks to people for edification and exhortation and consolation. 1 Corinthians 12:27–13:7 ... 14:1–3

—Summarizing what's been *emphasized* in Our Recent Studies—
Spiritual Gifts are **GOD–GIVEN ABILITIES** provided **PERSONALLY & PRECISELY** to every faithful follower of Christ! Their **PRIMARY PURPOSE** is to **BENEFIT & BUILD UP** the **BODY of Christ** and **BRING GLORY TO GOD!** Using His sovereign wisdom, God has **PERFECTLY DISTRIBUTED** these **GIFTS, TALENTS, & CAPABILITIES** throughout the Church to **ENABLE, EQUIP, ENERGIZE, & ENCOURAGE EVERYONE** to do **EXACTLY** what He has instructed us in **HUMBLE OBEDIENCE** to His Word!

—Specifying what's being *emphasized* in Today's Study—

The _____ of our **LOVE FOR GOD**
& **FOR ONE ANOTHER** is what _____
& _____ the _____ of our
spiritual gifts!

—Several **ESSENTIAL *truths*** that need to be **EXPOSED**:

- 1} **Spiritual warfare** is real. Our main battles are spiritual, not physical!
- 2} **Deception is the devil's #1 weapon!** He started in the Garden & he has never stopped trying to lead us astray from what's **TRUE!**
- 3} For almost everything God has graciously provided for us, there are **counterfeits** used by our spiritual enemies intended to **cause chaos & confusion.**
- 4} Ever since the Day of Pentecost, when spiritual gifts were officially introduced, a spiritual battle has surrounded their use and frequently they have been **misunderstood and misused!**
- 5} In Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12–14, & Ephesians 4, Paul wrote about spiritual gifts. In all three passages, he identified the necessity of love being a driving force or motivation to use our gifts effectively!

—Analyzing the link between OUR LOVE & USING OUR GIFTS:

① The _____ of our SPIRITUAL GIFTS is _____
_____ to our LOVE FOR GOD & ONE ANOTHER.

② The _____ of our LOVE for God is shown best by our
_____ to His instructions.

—Applying the lessons related to OUR LOVE & USING OUR GIFTS:

1 Considering Romans 12:6–9

2 Considering 1 Corinthians 12–14, especially 12:27–13:7