



## DISCUSSION GUIDE

In the City. For the City.  
A Journey through 1 Corinthians

Title: Power Up: Sermon 2  
Text: 1 Corinthians 12:4-7  
Helpful Resources:

- Intro Booklet ([www.vintagenola.org/inthecity](http://www.vintagenola.org/inthecity))
- Power Up Primer (<http://vintagenola.org/powerup>)

1. In 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 Paul mentions the various gifts, services, and activities God bestows upon Christians. In Romans 12:4-8 Paul expounds on these various God-given gifts by referring to the metaphor of the church as a unified body. Read Romans 12:4-8 and discuss these questions.

- In this passage Paul stresses the idea of the church as one body with various gifts that serve different functions. According to this passage, what are some specific gifts that God has given Christians?
- Paul explains that spiritual gifts come in all shapes and sizes. What is the connection between grace and gifts as referenced to in Romans 12:6?
- In Romans 12:6-8, Paul lists certain spiritual gifts God has given to Christians. Do you have any of the gifts listed here? If so, what are they? Are there any gifts he has given you that is not on the list? If so, what are they?

2. In 1 Corinthians 12:4–7 Paul contrasts the variety of gifts with the Trinitarian unity of God. In Ephesians 4:4–8 Paul also touches on the Trinitarian unity of God. Read Ephesians 4:4–8 and discuss these questions.

- The book of Ephesians contains several distinct themes, one of which is the theme of unity. In Ephesians 4:4–6 Paul uses the word “one” seven times. Why is it important to know that the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit) are diverse, but unified?
- In Ephesians 4:7 Paul uses terminology similar to 1 Corinthians 4:7. God, who is unified, bestows diverse gifts upon his children, who are unified, according to his grace. How does the diversity of gifts within the unity of the church compare to the diversity within the unity of the Trinity?
- Believers are unified by their hope in God. Paul mentions this one hope in Ephesians 4:4. What are some examples of Christians being unified in the same hope, but different in calling?

3. In 1 Corinthians 12:7 Paul talks about gifts, which are manifestations of the Spirit. The purpose of these manifestations is for the common good of the church. In Matthew 25:14–30 Jesus uses a parable about the Kingdom of God that can be compared to this passage in 1 Corinthians. Read Matthew 25:14–30 and discuss these questions.

- In Matthew 25:14 Jesus tells a parable about “a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.” What is the basic storyline of this parable?
- In Matthew 25:15 the man in the parable gave each “according to his ability.” What does Jesus mean by this statement? Does this have any relation to Ephesians 4:7? If so, what is the relation?
- Jesus loved conveying important truths through stories. What is the point of this parable? How does it relate to 1 Corinthians 12:7? What are some ways we can be faithful with the gifts that God has given us?

Prayer Points:

- Pray that God would save people through his Son throughout the greater New Orleans area.
- Pray that during this season we would begin to discover how God has gifted us to serve the church.

- Pray that we would not just know our gift(s), but also seek to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to use our gift(s).

Love the City Challenge:

#1 Discuss some ways we as the unified church can reach out to our neighborhood and share the love of Jesus with our neighbors. Brainstorm some ways we can reach out this week.

#2 Think about some ways we can serve Vintage church and the whole church throughout New Orleans with our spiritual gifts. Discuss some ways and then do them.