

Week 1: Ecclesiology II – Gifts and Order

1. Topic Overview:

The Church is not merely an organization but a spiritual organism built by the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

These gifts are to be used not in chaos or selfish ambition, but in the order of the Spirit.

This week explores the relationship between spiritual gifts and divine order, based on Pauline ecclesiology.

1. What Are Spiritual Gifts?

- 1) 1 Corinthians 12: There are various gifts, but the same Spirit
- 2) Purpose: Edification of the Church and the common good
- 3) Gifts are not for boasting but for serving and fulfilling God's mission

2. Diversity and Unity of Gifts

- 1) Types: Tongues, prophecy, healing, knowledge, faith, teaching, etc.
- 2) God is the source, distributing as He wills
- 3) Like body parts—diverse in function, one in body

3. Gifts and Church Order

- 1) 1 Corinthians 14: Gifts must be used in order
- 2) Tongues and prophecy require interpretation and discernment
- 3) Gifts must promote peace and order, not confusion

4. Love as the Foundation (1 Corinthians 13)

- 1) Gifts without love are meaningless
- 2) Abuse or comparison of gifts stems from lack of love
- 3) Gifts are temporary; love is eternal

5. Principles for Using Gifts in the Church

- 1) All gifts should be community-centered, not self-centered
- 2) Leaders guide in discerning and administering gifts
- 3) Gifts must be expressed with order, respect, discernment, and obedience

2. Reflection Questions:

- 1) What spiritual gift(s) have I received? How am I using them?
 - 2) Are my gifts building up the body or promoting myself?
 - 3) How can I maintain love and order while using spiritual gifts?
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