



Life Application Notes

Sunday – 27th May (West End)/3rd June (Lordshill/Central)

Speaker: Chris Kilby **Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Title: 'A Great Church has Great Meetings – Part 2 'God is in the House''

Introduction:

In a moment we are going to re-cap on some of Paul's teaching on 'Gifts of the Spirit'.

In groups of no more than 3, see if you can come up with an interesting definition of 'Gifts of the Spirit'.

- Ask each group to read their definition.
- Ask someone to read 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Questions for discussion:

- Why do you think it was important for Paul to teach this to the church in Corinth?
(clues for leader: Their pagan background meant they had an unbiblical view of spiritual experience)
- Who were the gifts for?
- What were the gifts for?

We looked at several of the gifts Paul mentions on Sunday.

- Can you recall the difference between 'words of wisdom' and 'words of knowledge'?

Now we will look at a one more – Prophecy:

- Read Matt 23:34 and Ephesians 4:11-13 – What does this tell us about prophecy?
- In the book of Acts, it is clear that prophets were active among the churches (e.g. Acts 13:1)
- Get back into your groups, and see if you can come up with a few sentences to define 'prophecy'

Here is one such definition which you can read afterwards:

'It is the ability God gives to an individual to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to his people through a divinely anointed utterance. It is God's response to a human situation. It is a supernatural revelation of God's will and purposes.'

What forms of prophecy have people in the group experienced? (For leader - e.g. direct words from God, thoughts and impressions, pictures and dreams, circumstances, a word or phrase comes to us, the bible, preaching, prophetic songs/actions/music/art)

It is important to add that prophecy is always subject to the Word of God. It will strengthen, encourage, comfort and edify. Real prophecy will not undermine people's faith or bring them into bondage or fear. It is rarely predictive; predictive prophecies need to be confirmed by several other sources. All prophecy should be weighed and evaluated. **Why not spend some time now waiting on God, and see if he gives any words of knowledge, wisdom or prophecy?**