# **Spiritual Gifts (Part 1): Power Play**

Ephesians 4:7–16

# Instructions

• Will you take your Bibles and turn to Ephesians 4:7–16? Please search the Scriptures with us. Don’t be afraid to use your index.

• If you don’t have a Bible but have a smartphone, you can download the Y-O-U Version Bible App. Once you download it, you can go to the “More” tab, tap “Events,” and find Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, and you can see the Scripture, notes, quotes, and references.

# Context

In the first three chapters of Ephesians, Paul sets forth the gospel. We are called first to repent of our sin, feel remorse for our wrongs, and entrust ourselves to Jesus for forgiveness. Only then does God call us to live for Him and serve others, and once we belong to Christ, we belong to His body, the church, a community of repentant believers who follow Jesus. A person cannot behave or believe like a Christian without other Christians. Our life together in Christ’s church is intended to be one of unity and peace. This unity is granted by Jesus and attained by the Holy Spirit. But how is it to be maintained? The answer is surprising.

# The Question

How is church unity maintained?

# Bible Verse

# Take-Home Truth

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

**Matthew 4:21 (CSB) 21**Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father, preparing their nets, and he called them.

**2 Corinthians 13:9 (CSB) 9**We rejoice when we are weak and you are strong. We also pray that you become fully mature.

**Καταρτίζω:** to cause to be in a condition to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ well, put in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Here are key facts on spiritual gifts drawn from the research of Robert Clinton:

1. The Holy Spirit gives all the gifts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to accomplish his work in the local church.
2. Each member with his [or her] gift is necessary to the whole body. Therefore, if any member is not active, the body as a whole is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. How we exercise our gifts is important, as well as the fact that we do \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them.
4. Each member should have an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to use his [or her] gift interdependently with others.
5. People with leadership gifts are to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ others so that every member will contribute to the overall growth of the whole body.
6. God should always receive the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for our use of gifts, whether they be leadership or supportive gifts.

(J. Robert Clinton, Spiritual Gifts [Camp Hill, Penn.: Horizon, 1985], p. 22).

**1 Timothy 4:14 (CSB)**14Don’t neglect the gift that is in you; it was given to you through prophecy, with the laying on of hands by the council of elders.

# Repent and be baptized.

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