



Pastor Scott Archer 05.28.2017*
Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
www.ccclamesa.com

Seeking the Greater Good
or, "Beyond Selfie Worship Pt. 2"
1 Corinthians 14:1-40

Series: Following Jesus in the Real World

Central Passage

1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV) — 1 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

Central Thought: Our corporate worship should be neither cold nor chaotic, but rather, marked by an ordered aliveness to the presence of the Spirit, and a deep desire to be used by him to build each other up in Christ and his kingdom work.

Spiritual Gifts: Special and sometimes supernatural abilities given to us by God to build us up in the Faith and equip us for service in the Church and our witness to the world.

1 Corinthians 12:27–28 (NLT) — 27 All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. 28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages. (See also 1Cor. 12:4-11)

Ephesians 4:11–12 (NLT) — 11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

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Romans 12:6–8 (NLT) — 6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. 7 If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. 8 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Private vs. Public Worship

- ❖ Speaking in tongues is a, usually private, intimate and passionate expression of praise and thanksgiving to God.
- ❖ Prophecy is a public forthtelling, sometimes foretelling, of the word and purposes of God regarding a specific person or issue.
- ❖ While all of God's gifts to us are beneficial, Paul says we should "earnestly desire" the gifts that build each other up and express them in a respectful, orderly fashion.

1 Corinthians 12:31 (NLT) — 31 So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all.

1 Corinthians 14:26 (NLT) — 26 Well, my brothers and sisters, let's summarize. When you meet together, one will sing, another will teach, another will tell some special revelation God has given, one will speak in tongues, and another will interpret what is said. But everything that is done must strengthen all of you.

1 Corinthians 14:32–33 (ESV) — 32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. 33 For God is not a God of confusion but of peace...