

MESSAGE GUIDE REBOOT: Developing a Big-Picture

Corinthians' Struggles September 16, 2018 1 Corinthians 14

CONNECT

- What is something you do that you feel helps keep your body healthy? Confession time! What is something you do that probably isn't too healthy for your body?

STUDY 1 Corinthians 14 is a chapter where Paul seeks to help the Corinthian Christians in regard to the usage of spiritual gifts. It seemed they were way too focused on individual fulfillment and satisfaction, often at the expense of the health and development of the overall church. Bottom line, they weren't employing their gifts with the "big picture" in mind. Work through the following questions to get a better understanding of what was going on:

- 1 Corinthians 14:1-5: Which spiritual gift did Paul wish the Corinthians employed more? Which gift did Paul feel they were over-using or mis- using instead? Why would Paul want them to put more attention on one gift more than another?
- 1 Corinthians 14:6-12: How does Paul use these verses to make a case for an increase in prophecy, and a decrease in the use of tongues?
- 1 Corinthians 14:18-19: Why does Paul say what he says in these two verses? Why was it better to hear five intelligible words in church than 10,000 words without any understanding?
- 1 Corinthians 14:20-25: How does Paul describe how a visitor might think about a church devoted to the gift of tongues at the expense of the gift of prophecy?
- 1 Corinthians 14:26-33: How does Paul describe what an orderly church gathering might look like?

APPLY

- Does the teaching of 1 Corinthians 14 have significance/application for the church of today? If so, in what ways?
- When it comes to the exercise of spiritual gifts, why are some tempted to think more about self-edification rather than the edification of the entire church body? Why is this bad for overall church health?
- How does a church remain spiritually sensitive without become spiritually out-of-control? (Which isn't really spiritual at all according to Galatians 5:23!)