

# **GROUP GUIDE – FORMED BY THE GOSPEL**

## **SESSION 2:4 | UNITED BY THE SPIRIT**

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### **Key Scriptures**

- 1 Corinthians 12:4–7
- 1 Corinthians 12:8–11
- 1 Corinthians 12:12–27
- Ephesians 4:3–6
- Romans 12:4–8
- 1 Peter 4:10–11

### **Big Idea**

The Spirit unites the diverse Body of Christ by giving different grace-gifts for the common good, so gospel-formed community is not uniformity, but Spirit-filled unity where every member belongs, contributes, and cares for one another.

### **Ice Breakers** (Choose one)

- When have you seen different people with different strengths come together in a way that actually worked?
- What kinds of differences in churches tend to make people suspicious or uncomfortable?

### **Discussion Questions** (As time allows)

1. 1 Corinthians 12:4–7 — Paul repeats “different” while emphasizing the same Spirit, Lord, and God. What does this teach us about unity and diversity in the church?
2. 1 Corinthians 12:7 — Why are spiritual gifts given “for the common good” rather than for personal attention, status, or comparison?
3. 1 Corinthians 12:8–11 — What do these varied gifts show about the way the Spirit actively ministers through different people at different times?
4. 1 Corinthians 12:11 — How does it change our view of gifts to know the Spirit distributes them “just as he determines”?
5. 1 Corinthians 12:12–14 — Why does Paul compare the church to a body with many parts? What does this image correct in us?

6. 1 Corinthians 12:15–20 — Where are people tempted to feel like they do not matter in the Body? How does Paul answer insecurity?
7. 1 Corinthians 12:21–24 — Where are people tempted to act like they do not need others? How does Paul confront pride?
8. 1 Corinthians 12:24–26; Romans 12:15 — What does it look like to have equal concern so that suffering and honor are shared?
9. Ephesians 4:3–6; 1 Corinthians 12:27 — How do we protect essential truth while refusing suspicion, division, or individualism?
10. 1 Corinthians 12:27; 1 Peter 4:10–11 — What is one practical way you can stay connected and play your part for the common good this week?

### **Application**

Take a moment to reflect: Are you more tempted toward insecurity (“I don’t matter”) or independence (“I don’t need others”) in the Body of Christ? This week, choose one concrete way to use what God has entrusted to you for the common good and to receive the gifts of others with humility.

### **Examples**

- Encouraging someone whose gift or role is easy to overlook
- Using a spiritual gift or ordinary ability to build someone up
- Asking for help instead of pretending you can function alone
- Rejoicing with someone else instead of comparing
- Entering a difference with curiosity instead of suspicion
- Serving in a way that strengthens the whole Body

Holy Spirit, unite us in Christ. Teach us to value every part of the Body, use our gifts for the common good, and resist both pride and insecurity as You build Your church.

### **Key Takeaway**

*Unity does not mean sameness. The Spirit gives different grace gifts to different people for the good of the whole Body. Gospel formed community stays connected, honors every part, and learns to function together; not uniform, but unified in Christ.*