

Family • Faith • Holy Spirit • Mission



2026. 6.

Small Group Preview

Jesus community where
God's kingdom is realized on this earth

2026. 6. 7. Bothell Main Campus 2pm



시애틀형제교회
COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEATTLE

The Community That Expresses Diverse Gifts Through Love

The summer, a season like a beautiful gift that God has given to Seattle, has begun. Just as the June landscape is filled with radiant sunlight and deepening shades of green, I pray that God's life and joy will overflow more richly in your lives and ministries.

In this June small group meetings, we will be sharing from 1 Corinthians 12 and 13. We often refer to chapter 12 as the "chapter of gifts" and chapter 13 as the "chapter of love." God has given various gifts to the church. Some teach, some serve, some encourage, and others pray faithfully in silence. In this way, God builds up the church and expands His kingdom through diverse gifts.

However, Scripture clearly tells us that no matter how great the gift is, without love it is nothing. Gifts without love do not build people up but instead lead to exhaustion, and service without love cannot be sustained for long. Revival in the church must be rooted in love, and the passion for missions must flow from love. Ultimately, the community that pleases God most is one where diverse gifts are united in love, building one another up and giving life to each other.

Dear leaders, I hope that during this month of June you will rediscover the gifts God has given each of you and experience the grace of pouring those gifts out through love. May our service not be seen as an obligation but as an expression of love, and may our words and prayers become a channel of life that raises others up again.

Also, I bless you that in every meeting and preview gathering, the Holy Spirit's warm comfort and renewed strength will be poured out abundantly upon all cell leaders first. The pastoral team and I always look upon your faithful steps with gratitude and prayer.

May this June be a month where the diverse gifts God has given us are united in love, producing beautiful fruit that brings life to people and builds up communities wherever we go.

I love and bless you.

A servant of Christ, **James Kwon**



Embracing the members with a shepherd's heart

Small Group Preview

Small Group Usage

Living Life Weekly Bible Study 1, June 4th Scripture, P168

Focus

Spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit unify and benefit the church community.

Ice Breakers

A believer in their 70s at a certain church warmly welcomes people with a gentle smile, visits those who are struggling, and prays for them saying, "God loves you." When have you experienced or felt that "the church community is truly good"?

Examine God's Word

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–11 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

Understand Setting

In the 1st century, Corinth was a major commercial center of the Roman Empire. It was a gateway for east-west maritime trade and an international city where diverse peoples and cultures interacted. In Corinth, temples of Aphrodite (Greek goddess), Isis (Egyptian goddess), and a Jewish synagogue coexisted. Living in a polytheistic society, the people of Corinth were deeply fascinated by spiritual experiences such as ecstasy and mystical encounters. In chapter 12, Paul seeks to correct the Corinthian believers' misunderstandings about spiritual things.

In particular, as a commercial city, the Corinthians were accustomed to competition and self-promotion due to great wealth. When this culture entered the church, believers began to misunderstand the diversity of gifts, roles, and ministries as a hierarchy. Paul repeatedly uses expressions emphasizing that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are "one" (unity of God three times), teaching that the diversity of gifts is not for superiority or competition, but for building up and uniting the community. Paul specifically connects gifts, ministries, and activities with the Triune God, emphasizing balance and harmony rather than opposition or hierarchy.

Meditate the Text

1 < Observation What spiritual gifts does Paul mention in verses 8–10?

2 **Observation** Who is the one who governs all gifts (v.11)? What is the purpose of Him distributing gifts to each person (v.7)?

3 **Application** What gifts has God given you, or what gifts would you like to ask God for? How would you like to use those gifts to benefit the community?

Review the Text

Within the church community, there are diverse gifts, roles, and ministries. These exist to make the church more beautiful and abundant through different functions. Diversity is God's intended design. Therefore, believers should not view gifts, roles, and ministries through a relative perspective of comparison and superiority, but through an absolute perspective that they are given by God according to the needs of the community. No matter how special something may appear, the ultimate focus must not be people, but God.

Pray through the Text

- 1 May we remember that God gives gifts for the benefit of believers and the church community.
- 2 May we use the gifts we have received to reveal God's glory, not our own glory.



Small Group Preview

Leader Usage

Living Life Weekly Bible Study 1, June 4th Scripture, P168

Focus

Spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit unify and benefit the church community.

Ice Breakers

A believer in their 70s at a certain church warmly welcomes people with a gentle smile, visits those who are struggling, and prays for them saying, "God loves you."

When have you experienced or felt that "the church community is truly good"?

Examine God's Word

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–11 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

NIV	GOD'S WORD	ESV
<p>1 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.</p> <p>2 You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.</p> <p>3 Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.</p> <p>5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.</p> <p>6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.</p> <p>7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.</p>	<p>1 Brothers and sisters, I don't want there to be any misunderstanding concerning spiritual gifts.</p> <p>2 You know that when you were unbelievers, every time you were led to worship false gods you were worshipping gods who couldn't even speak.</p> <p>3 So I want you to know that no one speaking by God's Spirit says, "Jesus is cursed." No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>4 There are different spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.</p> <p>5 There are different ways of serving, and yet the same Lord is served.</p> <p>6 There are different types of work to do, but the same God produces every gift in every person.</p> <p>7 The evidence of the Spirit's presence is given to each person for the common good of everyone.</p>	<p>1 Now concerning[a] spiritual gifts,[b] brothers,[c] I do not want you to be uninformed.</p> <p>2 You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led.</p> <p>3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;</p> <p>5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;</p> <p>6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.</p> <p>7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.</p>

8 To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit,

10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

8 The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak with wisdom. The same Spirit gives another person the ability to speak with knowledge.

9 To another person the same Spirit gives courageous faith. To another person the same Spirit gives the ability to heal.

10 Another can work miracles. Another can speak what God has revealed. Another can tell the difference between spirits. Another can speak in different kinds of languages. Another can interpret

8 For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Understand Setting

In the 1st century, Corinth was a major commercial center of the Roman Empire. It was a gateway for east-west maritime trade and an international city where diverse peoples and cultures interacted. In Corinth, temples of Aphrodite (Greek goddess), Isis (Egyptian goddess), and a Jewish synagogue coexisted. Living in a polytheistic society, the people of Corinth were deeply fascinated by spiritual experiences such as ecstasy and mystical encounters. In chapter 12, Paul seeks to correct the Corinthian believers' misunderstandings about spiritual things.

In particular, as a commercial city, the Corinthians were accustomed to competition and self-promotion due to great wealth. When this culture entered the church, believers began to misunderstand the diversity of gifts, roles, and ministries as a hierarchy. Paul repeatedly uses expressions emphasizing that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are "one" (unity of God three times), teaching that the diversity of gifts is not for superiority or competition, but for building up and uniting the community. Paul specifically connects gifts, ministries, and activities with the Triune God, emphasizing balance and harmony rather than opposition or hierarchy.

Meditate the Text

1 **Observation** What spiritual gifts does Paul mention in verses 8–10?

The word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues are mentioned.

Explanation The word of wisdom is the gift of making right decisions according to God's will, and the word of knowledge is the gift of understanding and explaining truth. Faith is the gift of being assured of God's work, and healing is the gift of restoring physical and spiritual sickness. Working of miracles is the gift of performing supernatural acts, and prophecy is not about predicting the future but about proclaiming God's will. Distinguishing between spirits is the gift of discerning whether a manifestation comes from the Holy Spirit or an evil spirit. Speaking in tongues is the gift of speaking in a foreign or spiritual language, and interpretation is the gift of translating tongues so that others can understand.

2 **Observation** Who is the one who governs all gifts (v.11)? What is the purpose of Him distributing gifts to each person (v.7)?

The Holy Spirit is the one who governs the gifts, and the purpose is for the benefit of all.

Explanation All gifts are governed by the Holy Spirit. Spiritual gifts are not something obtained through human request or effort. The Holy Spirit distributes them to each person according to His good will. The reason He does this is for the benefit of the church. Spiritual gifts prioritize the good of the church and community over personal satisfaction or enjoyment. Rather than drawing attention to people, gifts direct our focus to God (the Holy Spirit) who gives them.

3 **Application** What gifts has God given you, or what gifts would you like to ask God for? How would you like to use those gifts to benefit the community?

Explanation Leaders, please guide the members to share what gifts they have received or desire to receive, and how they would use them for the benefit of the community. (Example) "Through the gift of listening, I will carefully and attentively hear others." "With the gift of wisdom, I will make right decisions even in difficult situations." "With the gift of obedience, I will act according to God's Word."

TIP To encourage richer sharing, you may also use the additional question below.

Have you ever seen someone properly or improperly use spiritual gifts, and what lessons did you learn from that experience?

Review the Text

Within the church community, there are diverse gifts, roles, and ministries. These exist to make the church more beautiful and abundant through different functions. Diversity is God's intended design. Therefore, believers should not view gifts, roles, and ministries through a relative perspective of comparison and superiority, but through an absolute perspective that they are given by God according to the needs of the community. No matter how special something may appear, the ultimate focus must not be people, but God.

Pray through the Text

- 1 May we remember that God gives gifts for the benefit of believers and the church community.
- 2 May we use the gifts we have received to reveal God's glory, not our own glory.

Text Deep Dive

Before providing in 12:8–11 a sample of the variety of gifts the Spirit distributes, in 12:7 Paul creates a headline that curtly announces his principal position about spiritual gifts: Their only purpose is to provide an avenue for each believer to serve a vital need of the whole community. This principle will underline his teaching through the end of chapter 14. Each believer has a gift so that other believers might be strengthened and receive needed ministry. These gifts are not for self-aggrandizement.

In 12:8–11, Paul presents nine spiritual gifts as samples of what the Spirit [Vol 15, p. 179] provides. This is one of four such lists in Paul's writings (12:27–28; Rom 12:6–8; Eph 4:11). This list is distinctive in repeating four times the role of the Holy Spirit as the single source of each gift, no doubt intending to reinforce the point made in 12:4. It also creates three groups of gifts by shifting to a different word, "someone else" (heteros [TG2087, ZG2283]), to refer to those receiving the gifts before the third item (faith) and the eighth item (tongues; NLT, "unknown languages"). The first group includes two kinds of "words" or "messages." The third group includes two gifts involving "tongues." The group of five items in the middle appears to be miscellaneous (Hays 1997:211).

The first group, containing two types of messages, heads the list because they are both immediate examples of God's speaking to the believing community—in contrast to speechless idols (12:2). The expressions "wise advice" and "message of special knowledge" are intended to be viewed as overlapping since they are phrased in parallel, literally "word of wisdom" and "word of knowledge." Wisdom best relates to matters of practical living, or commonsense advice like that found in proverbial Wisdom Literature (Bruce 1971:119; Talbert 1987:82), while knowledge may refer to explaining a particularly Christian perspective on the world and God. Both words may refer to Christian wisdom and knowledge in contradistinction to the empty wisdom and knowledge of the world, which Paul debates in 1:18–2:16. However, assumptions that wisdom here is particularly oriented around the crucified Christ (Dunn 1975:221; Fee 1987:592; Garland 2003:581; Soards 1999:258) unnecessarily

confuses Paul's exposition there, which is geared against pagan, worldly wisdom, with the exclusively Christian setting of wisdom or knowledge being described here.

In the second, miscellaneous group of five, Paul first lists "faith" in 12:9. This cannot mean the basic, saving faith in Christ that all believers possess; more likely it means special confidence in pursuing God's will when others in the Christian community are unsure, questioning, or perhaps contemplating quitting a course of action. Perhaps this gift of extraordinary faith overlaps with the next two gifts, noted in 12:9b and 12:10a: the ability to bring about healings and miracles. These two themselves overlap but are distinguished by eliciting God's power to intervene in personal illnesses that befall believers and his power to intervene in a variety of life's circumstances that threaten to overpower believers, ranging from civil authorities to demonic forces.

Prophecy (12:10b), the fourth item in the miscellaneous list, has already been noted by Paul as an integral aspect of the public assembly of Corinthian believers in 11:2-10 and involves people who provide insight into God's will that is consistent with his goals and purposes for individuals and the church. The gift of prophecy may relate to the fifth item, distinguishing spirits, in that apparent prophetic insights may be incongruent with one another, implying that one is right and one is wrong; or one prophecy on its own may be so outlandish that it is questionable. Both instances would require another gifted person to discern the genuine message from God and recognize an inauthentic one. This may or may not mean that someone with a wrong message is a false prophet, only that he or she made a mistake in that instance.

The final group lists, literally, the gift of "tongues" and the "interpretation of tongues," as noted in the NLT text note for 12:10. The tongues group is last probably because it will emerge later in his discussion as gifts being unduly elevated among the Corinthian believers. The debate over what type of phenomenon this refers to is wide-ranging. Before the rise of Pentecostalism under Charles Parham and William Seymour and the Azusa Street revival at the turn of the twentieth century, it was considered an open-and-shut case that this was a phenomenon restricted to the early generations of the church that did not extend much beyond the second century.

Most likely, the phenomenon is some kind of unintelligible language-like verbal demonstration that is not a known human language and would require an interpreter for any other believers or anyone else to know what was said. A current suggestion, best conveyed by Thiselton (2000:285-288), looks to the expression "groanings that cannot be expressed in words" (Rom 8:26) as the most productive window to explain the tongues phenomenon here (see note on 12:10). The Holy Spirit taps into generic human language capability that underlies all human language in order to enable the believers to express their deepest, personal thoughts and concerns. How this interpretation might relate to the modern charismatic/Pentecostal phenomenon is not entirely certain but would probably suggest that some have this genuine gift and some do not.

This information is from William Baker, 1 Corinthians: Cornerstone Commentary.



Embracing the members with a shepherd's heart

Small Group Preview

Small Group Usage

| Living Life Weekly Bible Study 2, June 8th Scripture, P170 |

Focus

Spiritual gifts become beneficial to the community when they are carried in the vessel of love.

Ice Breakers

A sick person needs medicine. However, if the timing or method of taking the medicine is wrong, the medicine meant to heal can instead harm the body.

Have you ever tried to help someone or do a good deed, but despite your good intentions, it was misunderstood?

Examine God's Word

Read 1 Corinthians 13:8–13 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

Understand Setting

The Corinthian church was spiritually very active because of the abundance of spiritual gifts, but instead of building up the community, those gifts became a cause of division. For example, those who spoke in tongues considered themselves more spiritual, while those who did not experienced spiritual inferiority or exclusion. For the Corinthian believers, spiritual gifts had become a source of personal glory and pride rather than a benefit to the community. Therefore, Paul points out the lack of love in the Corinthian church, which emphasized gifts alone. The Corinthian church pursued gifts but lost love.

1 Corinthians 13 is often called the “Love Chapter.” Between chapters 12 and 14, where the Corinthians were debating which gift was greater, Paul inserts this chapter on love to show that love is the most excellent way to use spiritual gifts. Paul does not deny spiritual gifts. Rather, he emphasizes that love must be the core motivation and foundation through which gifts operate. No matter how impressive a gift may seem, without love it is merely noise like a clanging cymbal. More essential and valuable than any gift is love.

Meditate the Text

1 **Observation** There will come a time when what we know in part and do in part will disappear. When is that time? (vv.9–10)

2 **Observation** Among faith, hope, and love, which is the greatest? (v.13)

3 **Application** Spiritual gifts and the things of this world are not eternal. What areas of your life need to be reordered as you prioritize eternal love?

Review the Text

The Corinthian believers were rich in gifts but lacking in love. This became a cause of broken unity within the church. Spiritual gifts are tools for serving and building up believers and the church in this world, but they are not eternal. Love is eternal. When the perfect comes, when we see the Lord face to face, all the partial things we now practice will no longer be needed. More important than gifts is using the gifts each person has received with love for the sake of the church.

Pray through the Text

- 1 Help us remember that prophecy, tongues, and knowledge are not eternal, but love is eternal.
- 2 Help us bring life to people and benefit the community through words and actions filled with love.



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Leader Usage

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Have you ever tried to help someone or do a good deed, but despite your good intentions, it was misunderstood?

Examine God's Word

Read 1 Corinthians 13:8–13 together. Circle or underline repeated words or expressions that carry important meaning.

NIV	GOD'S WORD	ESV
<p>8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.</p> <p>9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part,</p> <p>10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.</p> <p>11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.</p> <p>12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.</p>	<p>8 Love never comes to an end. There is the gift of speaking what God has revealed, but it will no longer be used. There is the gift of speaking in other languages, but it will stop by itself. There is the gift of knowledge, but it will no longer be used.</p> <p>9 Our knowledge is incomplete and our ability to speak what God has revealed is incomplete.</p> <p>10 But when what is complete comes, then what is incomplete will no longer be used.</p> <p>11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child, and reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I no longer used childish ways.</p>	<p>8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.</p> <p>9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part,</p> <p>10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.</p> <p>11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.</p> <p>12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.</p>

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

12 Now we see a blurred image in a mirror. Then we will see very clearly. Now my knowledge is incomplete. Then I will have complete knowledge as God has complete knowledge of me.

13 So these three things remain: faith, hope, and love. But the best one of these is love.

13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Understand Setting

The Corinthian church was spiritually very active because of the abundance of spiritual gifts, but instead of building up the community, those gifts became a cause of division. For example, those who spoke in tongues considered themselves more spiritual, while those who did not experienced spiritual inferiority or exclusion. For the Corinthian believers, spiritual gifts had become a source of personal glory and pride rather than a benefit to the community. Therefore, Paul points out the lack of love in the Corinthian church, which emphasized gifts alone. The Corinthian church pursued gifts but lost love.

1 Corinthians 13 is often called the “Love Chapter.” Between chapters 12 and 14, where the Corinthians were debating which gift was greater, Paul inserts this chapter on love to show that love is the most excellent way to use spiritual gifts. Paul does not deny spiritual gifts. Rather, he emphasizes that love must be the core motivation and foundation through which gifts operate. No matter how impressive a gift may seem, without love it is merely noise like a clanging cymbal. More essential and valuable than any gift is love.

Meditate the Text

1 **Observation** There will come a time when what we know in part and do in part will disappear. When is that time? (v.9–10)

It is when the perfect comes.

Explanation The word “partial” means that all believers living in this present age know only in part about God, His plans, and His will. The reason believers know only partially is because the perfect has not yet come. “The perfect” refers to the second coming of Jesus Christ and the completed kingdom of God. When Christ returns and life in God’s kingdom begins, we will know God fully. At that time, prophecy, tongues, and knowledge, which are means of knowing God, will cease, and only love will remain (v.8).

2 < Observation Among faith, hope, and love, which is the greatest? (v.13)

The greatest of these is love.

Explanation After saying that prophecy, tongues, and knowledge will cease when the perfect comes, Paul explains that faith, hope, and love will remain forever. The phrase “always remain” emphasizes that these continue not only in this present age but also into the kingdom of God. Among these three virtues, Paul stresses that love is the greatest. The word “greatest” is a comparative adjective meaning “greater” or “more excellent.” This does not mean faith and hope are less important. Paul’s message to the Corinthians is that the ultimate purpose and motivation behind everything must be love. This teaching is also a truth that today’s church must take to heart.

3 < Application Spiritual gifts and the things of this world are not eternal. What areas of your life need to be reordered as you prioritize eternal love?

Explanation Leaders, please guide the members so they can share how they want to live lives that practice love. (Example) “I will prepare snacks for our small group gatherings.” “I will tell my family I love them once a day.” “No matter where I am or what I do, I will examine whether my words and actions are filled with love.”

TIP To encourage richer sharing, you may also use the additional question below.

What lesson does the statement that faith, hope, and love will always remain teach you personally?

Review the Text

The Corinthian believers were rich in gifts but lacking in love. This became a cause of broken unity within the church. Spiritual gifts are tools for serving and building up believers and the church in this world, but they are not eternal. Love is eternal. When the perfect comes, when we see the Lord face to face, all the partial things we now practice will no longer be needed. More important than gifts is using the gifts each person has received with love for the sake of the church.

Pray through the Text

- 1 Help us remember that prophecy, tongues, and knowledge are not eternal, but love is eternal.
- 2 Help us bring life to people and benefit the community through words and actions filled with love.

Text Deep Dive

Paul's third major division on love (13:8–13) advocates the universal persistence of love as the lone human quality of behavior that stretches beyond current human conditions. Everything else is transitory, including the spiritual gifts, the point he develops in 13:8–10. In 13:8, he specifically notes three gifts from his list in 13:1–3: prophecy, tongues (reversing their order from there), and knowledge as representative. Notably, he does not mention faith from earlier, since it will be listed with love as ever enduring in 13:13, nor giving to the poor nor bodily sacrifice, which are, in fact, acts of love.

After first stating with forceful simplicity in 13:8 that love does not and cannot be stopped (lit., “never fails”), he emphatically declares that prophecy, tongues, and special knowledge will not continue. Leaving off tongues, he stipulates in 13:9 that both prophecy and knowledge only provide partial and imprecise revelation. God's purposes and plans are simply too vast for any human to utter or comprehend, even by the Holy Spirit among believers. But on the very day when that limitation will end, the need for prophetic words and special knowledge will also cease. Then, the community of believers will enter into a state of perfection in the presence of God, and understanding that is screened through human instruments will no longer have any purpose. Though he does not say so explicitly (see note on 13:10), Paul must have been thinking of the day of the Lord's coming as the end point of God's plan, when earth will be destroyed (Garland 2003:623; Thiselton 2000:1065) and the disrupted universe reunited with God.

In 13:11–12, Paul introduces two analogies to help convey his point about partial knowledge being replaced by complete knowledge. In 13:11, he first compares what he is talking about to the vast change in knowledge that occurs between childhood and adulthood. The world of children is confined to what their parents and immediate surroundings convey to them, enough for them to get by but not at all adequate to function in the world of adults. Paul emphasized that childhood knowledge, like outgrown toys, must one day be permanently put away.

In 13:12, Paul's second analogy involves a mirror. No matter how finely polished, a mirror can never provide more than an indirect image of a person's face. It is not even a remotely adequate substitute for seeing someone close-up in real life, or being seen by someone else in real life, face-to-face (NLT, “with perfect clarity”). Each person's face is unique and is the physical representation of individual personality. Even so, a person's face is only a window into the soul, a caricature of true personhood. True personhood can never be fully fathomed by our friends or family, or even our spouse—and certainly not in a mirror! Only our Creator knows us to our depths, and on the day of perfection, God himself will gaze beyond our eyes to the boundaries of our personhood. We will be known like we longingly seek to be known now. The quest for self-understanding will be over.

This information is from William Baker, 1 Corinthians: Cornerstone Commentary.

Ministry Prayer Request for June

Major Ministry Schedule

- May all ministry team leaders who plan and carry out ministries be filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom.
- May volunteers for 2026 Toon Town be recruited smoothly, and may every detail be prepared thoroughly and graciously without lack. May it become a time where children draw closer to Jesus in a deeper way.
- Through the discipleship course (Apostles' Creed Study), may the faith of the congregation become firmly established, and may they experience growth and maturity.
- Through the 21st U.S. Duranno Mothers School, may mothers experience restoration and growth.
- Through the 22nd Happy Couples School, may families experience not only restoration but also revival.
- Please be with the Malaysia Vision Trip team during their journey from June 2–10, and may they be used as precious channels of the gospel to the souls in the mission field.
- Through the hands of the Indonesia Medical Mission Team from June 26–July 4, may the grace of healing and restoration flow, and may they fully share God's love through a safe journey.
- Through "Mission Gate," may the small one-minute prayers offered every Sunday gather together into a great miracle of love, and may the entire congregation enjoy the joy of partnering with missionaries as mission supporters.
- Give leadership and wisdom to the cell leaders and cell mothers who serve the cell groups so that they may achieve unity.
- May the EW congregation receive abundant grace in every worship service, and may cell groups and leaders who can help new families settle well be firmly established.

Next Generation Prayer Points

- **Sonlight** – Please raise up faithful and joyful volunteers to serve during July and August. Move people’s hearts to willingly serve in ministry, fill every needed position with the right individuals, and grant the team endurance and encouragement. Also, through serving, may they grow spiritually, deepen in worship, and experience richer community.
- **Coram Deo** – Thank You, God, for being with us throughout the semester. Help us finish strongly in faith through the end of June, and may graduating 12th grade students discover their identity and calling in God as they prepare for their next steps with faith.
- **NEXT** – May graduating seniors finish the remainder of their school year well and continue to trust God even as they enter college. Please raise up and send NEXT teachers for the 2026–2027 school year.
- **EW College** – May students finish the school year well in grace and continue to long for and walk with the Lord throughout the coming summer.
- **NeWave** – May every young adult in NewWave become a true worshiper who experiences life transformation through worship, and through that may the NewWave community experience greater spiritual restoration and revival.

Vision • Timeframe for Small Group(Sample)

“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”
(Acts 2:46–47).

This verse shows the model of an ideal church community. To embody the model of the early church, Community Church of Seattle gathers in small communities called “Soon.” Through these gatherings, new families settle into the church and grow spiritually. Additionally, by sharing life together, all members endure and overcome difficult times. Through ongoing evangelism, the “Soon” community grows and eventually branches out. This process of branching will lead to the establishment of another family of God. We look forward to this process of reproduction within our communities, as it aligns with our vision for the brother church: to expand God’s kingdom on earth.

The small group meets every two weeks, with members taking turns opening their homes or at a designated place. Following the model outlined below, the group will gather at the discretion of the leader.

Total Time (90min)	Meeting Content	Meeting Direction
Welcome 10min	Please prepare questions for icebreakers to help your members open up.	Towards Eachother
Praise 10min	Focus solely on the Lord and offer praise. Invite the Lord into the gathering.	Towards God
Word Sharing 40min	Focus on applying God’s Word as you share.	Towards the Word
Prayer 20min	Pray for each other’s prayer requests, the community, and the church.	Towards Each other
Ministry 10min	Make plans for evangelism within the small group, and pray together for the target individuals. Also, pray together in the small group for missions.	Towards Nonbelievers

- Take turns opening your homes, but prepare refreshments minimally.
- Respond to the leader’s KakaoTalk messages and questions as quickly as possible.

• 2026 Small Group Preview Schedule •

Date	Content	Remarks
February 1st	Small Group Leaders	
March 1st	"	30 Days of Workship Kick off
May 3rd	"	
June 7th	"	
September 6th	"	
October 4th	"	
November 7th (Sat)	Small Group Leaders and District Leaders Retreat	

- The above schedule may be adjusted depending on church ministry plans. Please refer to the preview announcement published in the bulletin on the third week of each month.

