

# make your life count: live to make a difference

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Are we truly making our lives count, living to make a difference? Are we investing our time and efforts in things that hold eternal value? Are we living in such a way that we point others to Christ? In 1 Corinthians 12, we learn three essential principles on living a life that truly makes a difference.

## abide (be dependent on the Holy Spirit)

In 1 Corinthians 12:1-3, Paul emphasizes the importance of understanding spiritual gifts and avoiding ignorance. Ignorance can be costly! Paul reminds the Corinthians that, like all of us, they once worshipped idols instead of God. The Corinthians were misled by idol worship, but they now grasp the truth about Jesus Christ's lordship.

Through the Holy Spirit, we recognize Jesus's authority over everything. Without the Holy Spirit, we cannot truly understand Jesus. Matthew 7:21 warns that not everyone who calls Jesus Lord will enter Heaven. When we abide in Him and let the Holy Spirit guide us, we experience transformative change in our hearts. The Christian life isn't merely hard; it's impossible on our own — it's supernatural. It's about what God does in us and through us, not just our efforts for Him. To truly make your life count, you must ABIDE: submit to and depend on the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Acts 1:8 reminds us that we gain power through the Holy Spirit, empowering us to be effective witnesses for Jesus. Romans 8:9 assures us that the Spirit of God dwells within us. In John 15:4-5, Jesus commands us to ABIDE in Him, fully dependent and controlled by the Spirit. The evidence of the Holy Spirit (Spirit of Christ) residing in us is the fruit of the Spirit in our lives (Galatians 5:22-23). We must have a genuine desire to submit to the Lord. Just as Daniel's exceptional wisdom was attributed to God (Daniel 5:11-12), our lives can count when we allow God to work through us.

## appropriate (what was given to us by the Lord)

When God becomes a part of our lives, He equips and empowers through the Holy Spirit. Sadly, many believers miss out on this because they live their Christian lives without appropriating His divine power. God saved us so that we could lead lives filled with meaning, purpose, and

joy! It's essential for us to appropriate the gifts He has given us to experience the fullness of His blessings.

These gifts, ministries, and effects all originate from the SAME God (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). Spiritual gifts are unique abilities given by God to serve and uplift the body of Christ. Their source is the Holy Spirit, all intended for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 details some of these gifts: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, and even tongues. In the New Testament, there are four passages discussing spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Ephesians 4:11-13, Romans 12:3-8, 1 Peter 4:10-11). While the Bible doesn't provide a complete list, one crucial point remains: these abilities are not given for our glory but for His purpose.

Some sincere believers debate the cessation of gifts like tongues, while others insist on the necessity of these gifts. The key lies not in prohibiting but in using these gifts in an orderly manner: not for display or to impress others, but to build and support fellow believers. We must avoid restricting God within a box and limiting His boundless work.

## align (to God's purpose)

It is essential that we align ourselves with God's purpose, using our gifts to serve one another and steward God's grace responsibly within the local church (1 Peter 4:10-11). Like the various parts of a body, we all have distinct roles within the universal church, with ONE SPIRIT uniting us into one body under Jesus Christ's leadership (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Regardless of our diverse gifts, when we work together, the entire body benefits. It's crucial to appreciate each member and contribute according to the gifts entrusted to us.

Our alignment should be solely with God's purpose, avoiding division, especially on essential matters. Unity amidst diversity is possible only when we share a common purpose. As the body of Christ and His representatives on earth, our focus should be on bringing more people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Our most significant impact lies in connecting others to Jesus. Conversely, our greatest failure occurs when we live selfishly, disconnected from God's purpose. May we use our gifts to fulfill God's purpose in our lives: guiding others toward faith in JESUS CHRIST.

## last week's memory verse

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-7

## discuss this message

Why is God's presence so important in making a difference?

How do you appropriate to God the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are in you?

What can we do to maintain "unity in diversity" and accomplish Christ's mission for all of us?

DOWNLOAD THIS  
CHRONICLE ONLINE!

[ccf.org.ph/chronicle/](http://ccf.org.ph/chronicle/)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S  
4WS EVERY MONDAY!

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](http://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)

# step into the community

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN  
ALL WOMEN

**No session on November 2.**

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women  
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

NXTGEN  
KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

**United in Jesus: Living Out the Lessons on 1 Corinthians**

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM  
G/F North Wing

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12  
 zoom for ages 7-12

BIG MINISTRY  
SINGLES

**Linkedin Jesus: Understanding Discipleship and Its Importance**

November 10, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  B1GMinistry  
 beonewithgod

## join in and participate

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

**MOVE YDC 2023**

**Grounded: Discipleship in a Woke Culture**

FACE TO FACE CONFERENCE

October 30 - November 1, CCF Center

REGULAR RATES:

PHP1,200 for regular tickets

PHP1,000 for commitment card holders

Get your tickets at [moveydc.org](https://moveydc.org)

**Singles Sports Camp**

OPEN TO ALL SINGLES

November 10-12, MMRC

REGULAR RATE: PHP4,500

**Last day of registration today!**

Register at [ccfsports.org/register](https://ccfsports.org/register)

## Exploring a deeper connection with God?

Let's chat at the **Welcome Center**, 2<sup>ND</sup> floor lobby!

## learn more about our faith

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

**Join a GLC Training!**

**GLC Level 2 — Face-to-Face**

[OPEN TO ALL]

October 29, 2023, Sunday

at 1:00 PM, Room 2A

Book 7: Family Life

**GLC Level 2 — Zoom [OPEN TO ALL]**

November 2, 2023, Thursday at 7:30 PM

Book 7: Family Life

Go to [bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023](https://bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023) to register

To know more about other GLC trainings and available resources, visit [glc.ccf.org.ph](https://glc.ccf.org.ph)

**True Life Retreat: Start Anew**

A GLC RETREAT, OPEN TO ALL

December 1-2, CCF Center

Register NOW [bit.ly/TLRStartAnew2023](https://bit.ly/TLRStartAnew2023)

Or Visit our Booth every Sunday

at CCF Center G/F Lobby

**Join the CCF Community!**

**New in church? Do you have questions about CCF? OR are you seeking to know God more and want to grow in your faith?**

**LET's CONNECT!**

November 5, 2023, Sunday

at 2:00 PM, Room 2A

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

**God brought you here for His purpose.**

### 1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments — Deuteronomy 7:9*

### 2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23*

### 3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6*

### 4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

### 5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

**SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE**

5:00 PM

**SUNDAY SERVICES ENGLISH**

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

**FILIPINO**

**ONLINE LIVESTREAMS**

 [ccf.org.ph](https://ccf.org.ph)  [ccfmain](https://ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://ccfmainTV)

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](https://ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.