

Bible Study for May 25 - 31

You are encouraged to take some time to reflect on the scripture and the questions provided either individually, or with members of your household.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:3b - 13

Notes:

For this week, we begin a change in our reading, as we leave the Easter season and approach the Pentecost season. Pentecost begins with Epistle readings from 1 & 2 Corinthians, and then settles into lessons from the book of Romans.

1 Corinthians was written by Paul to a rather young congregation in the city of Corinth. Because Corinth was a vibrant port city at the time, filled with people from various parts of the world, there were a variety of ideas floating around regarding how to live and what to worship. It was also a rich city so most people were rather independently minded, feeling they could look after themselves and being self absorbed with their own lives without regard for others.

These attitudes were extended into this young congregation. Selfishness was rampant, as were a variety of ideas of what Christianity is and how it was modeled. This letter is therefore filled with practical advice for Christians of all times, reaching even into our current time in history.

Questions:

What was the best gift you ever received or gave? What was the occasion?

When you were a child, what did your relatives say you were good at?

Have you figured out what your gift or gifts from God are? Have you used them for personal purposes alone, or do you also use them to benefit our body of believers? Why or why not?

Do you feel that your faith should only be a private matter, or shared with others? Why?

In verses 12 – 13, in what ways does Paul stress the unity of the believers?

For the most part we find a unity in our worship services together. In these times of distancing and isolation, how might we be able to use our gifts in ways to make others feel they are still part of our Christian community?