

Theme: 'A Culture of the Servanthood in Christ'

'There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.' (1 Corinthians 12:4-6)

Now we might have listened to our reading and watched the video carefully and thought: 'What sort of Christian am I? I haven't got any of these gifts, they are all a bit 'high-brow' for the likes of me. Some people might have them, but I don't think that's me.'

Well, OK not all of them are for everyone, by any means. Miracles; prophecy; distinguishing between spirits; speaking in tongues and the interpretation of tongues; they are not for all.

However, all of us who follow Jesus have at least one gift: faith. We are capable of others such as: service; evangelism; helping; mercy; exhortation; giving; administration and wisdom.

All of these are possible if we do what we do using the greatest spiritual gift of all: love. Love for one's neighbour; one's enemy; for Jesus; can achieve more than we ever think possible.

I speak of gifts we can receive and use for the benefits of others. We can use them also for the benefit of our church and its members. I am not talking here about money; I preached on the need for giving in that sense a few weeks ago. I am talking about using the gifts of the Spirit that we are given, giving these gifts, so that we can use them to build up the church here at St Marc's.

With such gifts we can encourage each other in our own faith and in the developing the other cultures we are seeking to establish here, that of invitation; welcoming; a servanthood in Christ and ultimately our goal of thanks and praise.

The giving of our talents is absolutely essential if the kingdom of God is to thrive here.

The video is called:

ALL Spiritual Gifts EXPLAINED in less than 10 minutes

And can be found on the YouTube channel