

DAY 4

GLORIFY GOD WITH YOUR GIFTS

Chapters 11-14

1 Corinthians 11:2-16: Dress code in worship

Uncovered women causing offence praying and prophesying,
Claiming equality (as Galatians 3:28)?

Paul and Jesus

Jesus' positive towards women, e.g. Martha, and Paul too (Romans 16)
Genesis 2 important: man first, then woman, equal and different ...
Be careful of causing scandal

Questions: do we honour women and men equally in the church?

1 Corinthians 11:16-34: Problems with the Lord's Supper

The rich were eating and drinking, the poor were going hungry.

Paul

This contrary to the 'Lord's' supper as we received it, in which we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

Unworthy eating = being guilty of body and blood of Christ

Communion = sharing in the death of Jesus ... (remember baptism) and living it out

Not despising 'the body'

Questions: do we honour poor as much as rich in our churches? Is the Lord's Supper in my church taken seriously as proclaiming the Lord's death, or do we dishonour the Lord in how we worship?

1 Corinthians 12-14: Spiritual gifts

A very lively church (1:4) ... Lots of speaking in tongues, and controversy

Tongues a good gift of God

All Christians have the Spirit of God

Different gifts, the same Spirit, Lord and God ... the body and its parts

All will not have the same gift, including tongues

Love far more important mark of Spirit than tongues; love the language of heaven (chapter 13)

Tongues low down the list, and Paul prefers gifts that build up

In worship there should be intelligibility, good order, testing and peace ...

Questions: is the Holy Spirit important in our church worship? Do we recognize different gifts as important in worship and church life? Do we despise/ignore some gifts? Do we give too much importance to some?

What do we see as the most important mark of the Holy Spirit in our church life?