**Good Deeds, Spiritual Gifts and Living the Good Life**

In 1 Corinthians 7:7 Paul says:

“I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.”

We may wish like Paul that everyone in the church thought like we do, had the same goals as we do, had the same ability and gifts that we do, etc. We may think that there would be more unity if everyone was like us, but Paul corrects this tendency by saying , “But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.”

So, we are not the same, we do not have the same gifts, the same calling, the same passion to serve in the same area in the church. Of course, this is good since it makes the body of Christ a functioning organism instead of merely non-functional units of identical body parts (as in a box of hands, a bowl full of eyes, etc.)

**Concerning the Gifts:**

1. 1 Peter 4:9-11 -Each of us should use whatever gift we have
2. Romans 12:6-8 – We have different gifts
3. 1 Corinthians 12:27 – Now you are the body of Christ and each one has a part

**Concerning the reasons for Good Works:**

1. Matthew 5:14-16; First Peter 2:12– Good Works seen by men will glorify God
2. Ephesians 2:10 – Good works are prepared by God in advance for us to do
3. James 2:14-24 – Good Works Show our faith
4. Galatians 5:22 – Good works are natural; they are the fruit of the seed of the Word
5. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 – Good Works are self-determined. They are not done reluctantly (inner guilt) or under compulsion (external manipulation or force)
6. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (a second time) – Good works are supported by Grace
7. Colossians 1:25-26 – Good works are sacrificial; they will cost you something (time, money, freedom, etc.)

**Concerning our responsibility to live a good life:**

1. First Peter 2:15 – do good and silence the talk of foolish men
2. Titus 3:8 – Devote yourself to doing good and profit everyone around you
3. Titus 3:14 – Our people must learn to devote themselves to good