Gamma Bible Study - Questions

1 Corinthians 12b

Peter Ng

Case 1

Harry attended a church and after 6 months he was beginning to serve in the community service committee where they practically help the poor in the community by preparing meals, conducting skills workshops to equip the poor to work for a living and providing day care for children of single mothers. His friends were having a big discussion on whether Harry was actually using his spiritual gifts in this ministry or was he using his natural abilities. Some of them suggested he concentrate on praying for the gift of prophesy or tongues or miracles and they are supernatural and more effective in church. They said that this kind of work he was doing now was not really spiritual it was just ordinary and not supernatural and will not extend His kingdom. Harry felt hurt and confused and sought help from his Life Group Leader who pointed him out to 1 Cor 12:4-7 and 1 Cor 12:28. How does these verses help him? Does it matter whether it is a natural ability He uses for God or a spiritual gift? Does it have to be supernatural? What is Paul's main point here?

Case 2

Lim Lian Choo was confused when she visited the 5th Tabernacle of Heaven which was a church nearby. They taught about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. How it is different from our experience on conversion we receive the gift of the Spirit but there is a second and post conversion experience where the believer gets another more powerful infilling of the Holy Spirit. This will result in tongues speaking for this more spiritual state and is available for all believers. This is something ordinary believers will miss out on.

- a. Please look carefully at verse 13 and discuss whether the verse actually supports that particular doctrine.
- b. Lim Lian Choo is a quiet worker and only helps out with the Lords supper and making friends at the Connect Corner. She had lost of friends who have the gift of tongues and who seemed very spiritual. Her pastor could not speak in tongues and she felt ashamed of him when talking about him with her friends from the 5th Tabernacle of Heaven .Look at verse 1 Cor 12: 14-19 and 20-26 and discuss how this will help Lim Lian Choo?

c.	Lim Lian Choo was conflicted and was wondering if she should leave her current church and join the 5 th Tabernacle of Heaven. Her friends were saying that we should expect God to work supernaturally in our Christian lives because Christ is risen and we are victorious.
	She was worried and asked "Are we missing out if we do not have these manifestations in our church? Are we less spiritual? Are we not to desire these spectacular manifestations of God? Discuss.
Sha	aring Questions
1.	Can you identify your own personal spiritual gifts and share this with others in your group and do they affirm these gifts in you. Are you exercising them to build up the body? . Are you improving or honing these gifts and skills for Him?. Discuss practical ways your cell group can help each other serve in church.
2.	What are some of the gifts in your church that are "less honourable" how do we honour them and
	how should we treat these folk when they serve.