

# Second Baptist Church

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February 18, 2026



## Gifts, Love, and Faithfulness

### I. Love Is the Supreme Requirement

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 13:13

When everything else is evaluated, love \_\_\_\_\_ above them all.

- Faith connects us to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Hope anchors us for the \_\_\_\_\_.
- But love is the \_\_\_\_\_ in which every gift must operate.

Gifts will one day \_\_\_\_\_. Knowledge will pass away. But love \_\_\_\_\_

#### A. Love Is Greater Than Every Gift

Paul writes:

- Gifts without love equal \_\_\_\_\_
- Sacrifice without love equals \_\_\_\_\_
- Knowledge without love equals \_\_\_\_\_

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another.” —\_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Love Is the Measure of Spiritual Maturity

Spiritual maturity is measured by how consistently you \_\_\_\_\_ like Christ. Love reveals who is truly walking with \_\_\_\_\_. Love shows whether the \_\_\_\_\_ has been internalized.

#### C. Love Governs How Gifts Are Used

The same gift can either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ depending whether love is present. Paul’s message is clear Love is not meant to \_\_\_\_\_ gifts—it is meant to lead them.

## II. Fruit Comes Before Function

**Scripture:** Galatians 5:22–23

Spiritual gifts show what the Spirit can do \_\_\_\_\_ a believer.

Spiritual fruit shows what the Spirit is producing \_\_\_\_\_ a believer.

### A. Fruit Describes Who We Are, Not What We Do

God cares more about:

- Your \_\_\_\_\_ than your platform
- Your \_\_\_\_\_ than your work
- Your \_\_\_\_\_ than your charisma

Fruit reveals who we are when no one is \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. Gifts Can Be Exercised Without Maturity; Fruit Cannot

A believer can:

- Teach without \_\_\_\_\_
- Lead without \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve without \_\_\_\_\_
- Speak truth without \_\_\_\_\_

### C. The Spirit Produces Fruit as We Submit

Fruit is cultivated through:

- Daily \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ before God
- Dependence on the \_\_\_\_\_
- Willingness to be \_\_\_\_\_ and shaped

A church emphasizing gifts but ignoring fruit may grow \_\_\_\_\_, but not \_\_\_\_\_.

## III. Our Attitude Toward Others Matters

**Scripture:** Romans 12:10

### A. Gifts Must Be Used with Humility

Preferring others kills: True \_\_\_\_\_ maturity is seen not in how often we are noticed—but in how willingly we lift others up

### **B. Brotherhood Shapes How Gifts Function**

We are \_\_\_\_\_, not coworkers or competitors.

Without brotherly love:

- Correction becomes \_\_\_\_\_
- Leadership becomes \_\_\_\_\_
- Service becomes \_\_\_\_\_

With love, even difficult conversations bring \_\_\_\_\_.

### **C. Honor Protects Unity**

Honoring others means:

- Valuing different \_\_\_\_\_
- Respecting different \_\_\_\_\_
- Celebrating others' \_\_\_\_\_
- Refusing to diminish what God is doing through \_\_\_\_\_

A healthy church \_\_\_\_\_ what God is doing through others.

## **IV. The Ultimate Motive: The Glory of Christ**

**Scripture:** Colossians 3:17

Gifts exist to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, not ourselves.

### **A. Gifts Must Point to Christ, Not Ourselves**

The question is not: “Did people \_\_\_\_\_ me?”

The question is: “Was \_\_\_\_\_ honored?”

### **B. Christ-Centered Service Keeps Us Grounded**

Serving in Jesus’ name means:

- Under His \_\_\_\_\_, not our own
- For His \_\_\_\_\_, not ours
- According to His \_\_\_\_\_, not ours

### **C. Gratitude Fuels Right Attitudes**

Gratitude produces:

- Joyful \_\_\_\_\_
- Faithful \_\_\_\_\_
- Contentment in any \_\_\_\_\_
- Willingness to serve \_\_\_\_\_