

Benilde-St. Margaret's

Scripture Theme 2008-2009

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone... we are many parts but all one body in Christ.”

(1 Corinthians 12:4-6...12)

Brief background on Paul's community:

St. Paul's community in Corinth was struggling with all the different types of people that were coming and going in this huge port city and how the Christians within this community were expressing themselves. People became overly concerned with each other and who was doing what, whether right or wrong. Paul encouraged members of the community to not be overly concerned with others but be concerned with the common good. Each person is responsible for the building up of the whole community, with unity, and they should never be the cause of scandal for the members of the community, even when they are right. Paul continued to advise the community to not worry about the gifts given but rather to recognize that all gifts come from one Spirit. Each gift contributes to something that builds up of the community, ultimately God's community.

Questions for Reflection

- How is the BSM community like the community of Corinth?
- What unique gifts do you bring to the BSM community?
- How do you affirm other members of the BSM community for their gifts?
- What have you learned from others in the BSM community who are different from you?
- What areas do you think God is calling you to learn from this year?
- How are you going to cooperate with God in creating unity through our different gifts?

Suggestions for Use:

- Post in your room or office to serve as a reminder of our theme and the greater mission of our school.
- Read before meetings (individually or as a group) as a reminder of the greater mission of our school, not our personal agenda.
- Use as a prayer, individually or with a group before a gathering.
- Reflect on the passage and questions when you are having a hard day.
- Consider the passage when you would like to affirm someone.
- Remember the passage when you need an affirmation.
- Use it as a reminder that YOU have been called by God to serve the BSM community in this place and time, and you are valued because of it.