

GIFTED

We continue our study of spiritual gifts. Today we look at Romans 12. God calls us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to serve Him by using our gifts that he has given us.



OBSERVATIONS

Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Body and Mind

We are called to present our bodies as living and holy sacrifices to God and to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. God cares about ALL of you. The condition of our heart (inside) and the reality of our lifestyle (outward) are both important to God.

Background

There were arguments between the Jewish Christians and the Gentile Christians in Rome. This led to some people thinking they were better than others. Paul reminds us to be humble and remember that God gives us the grace to serve Him.

Paul's Insights into Using Our Gifts

1. _____ - Faith (Prophecy).
2. _____ - Motivation (Service, Teaching, Encouraging).
3. _____ - Wholeheartedly (Giving generously, leading with zeal, acts of mercy with cheerfulness).

SCRIPTURE *for further study*

Here are the scriptures that give us the lists of spiritual gifts. Read each of these passages and then spend some time thinking about where God may have gifted you. We discover our spiritual gifts through prayer and discernment.

Romans 12:6-8 - Prophecy, Service, Teaching, Exhorting, Giving, Leading, Acts of Mercy

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 - Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discernment, Speaking in Tongues, Interpreting Tongues

1 Corinthians 12:28-30 - Apostleship, Prophecy, Teaching, Miracles, Healing, Helping, Administration, Speaking in Tongues

Ephesians 4:11-12 - Apostleship, Prophecy, Evangelism, Pastoring, Teaching

Spend some time in prayer over the next few weeks. Talk to trusted friends and ask them in what ways they see your giftedness.

QUESTIONS *for discussion*

- In what ways do you feel the temptation to be conformed to this world?
- Where have you felt God calling you to use your spiritual gifts?
- Have you ever been envious of another person's spiritual gift or ministry? Why did you have these feelings of jealousy and how can you respond when this happens?



Your Notes *what God is saying to you:*
