

## Gifted for Work

**Read: Romans 12:3-8**

**Main idea:** Even though our faith is personal, we have been called to love one another and to use our gifts for the good of the body.

**Key Verses:** “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” (12:4-5 ESV)

### Key Principles:

- Just because you are gifted at something more than others may be, you should never be arrogant or puffed up about it.
- God does not provide you with gifts so that you can use them for your glory or agenda.
- The underlying purpose of your gift is rooted in love (first for God and then for others; beginning with the church and extending to the lost in our community).
- The body of Christ (the Church) is made up of unique members that are all important to the body.
- We are unified not because we are all the same, but rather because we are united with the same Lord, Jesus Christ.
- When God gifts us, He expects us to use our gifts with excellence and with passion to accomplish His mission in our context.

### Discussion:

1. How does this section on spiritual gifts connect to the often quoted passage right before it in Romans 12:1-2? How is verse 3 connected to verse 2 (renewed mind)?
2. Why do you think some people struggle with humility when it comes to spiritual gifts? Have you ever witnessed arrogance in church? Have you ever been puffed up?
3. Do you know what your spiritual gift(s) are? If so, what are they and how are you using them in the church? Community?
4. What strikes you most about Paul’s gift list? What do you find surprising, challenging or encouraging?
5. Why are spiritual gifts often referred to as grace gifts? How does that affect the way we view them and use them?
6. If Paul’s main point in this passage is we should put our gift into action, how does that affect the way we work and fulfill our responsibilities in life? The church? Home?

### Prayer:

- Pray that we would embrace our spiritual gifts for God’s glory and to benefit others.
- Pray:
  - That we would realize our abilities and passion and follow Christ in using them.
  - That we would desire to build God’s kingdom and fulfill His mission with our lives.
  - That we would recognize that our work matters and be diligent and faithful.

**Gifted for Work**  
Romans 12:3-8

- I. Be humble in the use of your gift. 12:3**
  - 1. Guard how you think.
  - 2. Grow in your faith.
  
- II. Be united in the purpose of your gift. 12:4-6**
  - 1. You can have diversity in unity. 12:4
  - 2. You can have individuality in unity. 12:5-6
  
- III. Be active in the exercise of your gift. 12:6-8**
  - 1. Use your gift to lead others. 12:6-8
  - 2. Use your gift to bless others. 12:8

NEXT WEEK:  
**Rest for Work**  
Matthew 11:25-30