

EVERY ONE, EXERCISE YOUR GIFTS

ROMANS 12:3-8

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Your living like Jesus is not only worship, but you are a living sacrifice. As you renew your mind and know God's will for you, you will find that you are gifted for the body of Christ.

YOU MUST THINK SOBERLY OF YOURSELF. "Paul is not asking the believer to estimate himself according to changing subjective feeling, but to estimate himself according to his relationship to Christ. When one sees that Christ is the standard of measurement, he will not think of himself more highly than he ought, but rather think of himself with sober judgment." R. Kent Hughes, Romans: Righteousness from Heaven, p. 220. (Romans 12:3, fn 12:3, Ephesians 4:4-8, fn 4:4-7, Romans 15:14, 15, Romans 8:29, fn 8:29, Hebrews 5:11-14, fn 5:12, 13, II Corinthians 10:12, 13, fn 10:12, 13)

How is discovering your gifts exciting and yet sobering in your evaluation of your gifts?

YOU BELONG TO THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THE BODY OF CHRIST BELONGS TO YOU. God ordained for both you and others in the body of Christ to have a need and a place for each other. (Romans 12:4, 5, fn 12:4, 5, I Corinthians 12:4-31, fn 12:6, fn 12:11, fn 12:13, fn 12:23, 24) *Why is it important that you belong to your group and to the body of Christ?*

YOU ARE GIFTED FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST. You will know your gifts by realizing what you are good at doing and what gives you a godly joy and satisfaction. "Remember, the Church did not give you your gifts—God did. They are his. Use them for his glory!" Hughes, p. 225. "The gospel does not produce perpetual spectators but mobilizes hearers to make a difference for others as God has made a difference in them... We serve as He has served us (Mark 10:45)." Gospel Transformation Bible, footnote for Romans 12:3-8. (Romans 12:6-8, fn 12:6[1st], Ephesians 4:7-16, fn 4:11, 12, fn 4:12, 13, I Peter 4:10, 11, fn 4:10, 11, fn 4:11) *Confirm with your group what your gifts are. How could you share your gifts enthusiastically?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.

