

## **Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)**

**[1] And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice - the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. [2] Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.**

**Romans 12:3 (NLT)**

**[3] Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.**

## **Romans 12:4-6 (NLT)**

**[4] Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, [5] so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. [6] In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.**

## **Romans 12:7-8 (NLT)**

**[7] If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. [8] If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.**

# **UNITY and DIVERSITY**

**Romans 12:4-8**

# Comparison:

- our bodies have **MANY** parts
- these parts form a **UNITY**
- each part is **DEPENDENT** on other parts
- the parts do **DIFFERENT** work

## 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NLT)

The human body has many parts,  
but the many parts make up  
**ONE** whole body. **So it is with  
the BODY of Christ.**

## 1 Corinthians 12:17-20 (NIV)

If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? [18] But in fact **God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as HE wanted them to be.** [19] If they were all one part, where would the body be? [20] **As it is, there are many parts, but ONE body.**

James 1:16-17 (NIV)

Don't be deceived, my dear brothers.

Every **GOOD** and **PERFECT**

**GIFT** is from above, coming down  
from the Father of the heavenly lights,  
who does not change like shifting  
shadows.

We are **ONE** body -

**UNITY**

We have **MANY** members -

**DIVERSITY**

The members  
do **NOT** have  
the same **FUNCTION**  
but they share the same  
**PURPOSE**

Ephesians 4:15-16 (NLT)

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, **GROWING in every way more and more like Christ**, who is the **HEAD** of his body, the church. [16] He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. **As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, SO THAT the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.**

**Spiritual Gift = God-granted  
empowerment FOR ministry on the  
part of believers** Holman Bib Dict

**Spiritual Gift - a special ability or skill  
GIVEN by God for the BENEFIT  
of the Church**

**1 Peter 4:10-11 (NLT)**

**God has given EACH of you a  
gift from his great variety of**

**spiritual gifts.**

**Use them WELL**

**to serve one another.**

1 Corinthians 12:7 (ESV)

To **EACH** is given the  
manifestation of the Spirit  
**FOR**  
the **COMMON** good.

# Spiritual Gifts

- are **GIVEN** by God
- to **EACH** believer
- **FOR** the **COMMON** Good

# **Spiritual Gifts**

are **TOOLS** to **BUILD** with,  
**NOT toys** to play with,  
or **weapons** to fight with.

Wiersbe

## **Dangers in Emphasizing Spiritual Gifts**

- focus on the **GIFT** rather than our Lord Jesus
- become **SELF-ABSORBED** in doing **THEIR** thing
- refuse to **SERVE** the in any other way

# Three Questions We ALL Ask

- Who am I?
- Where do I Belong?
- What am I here for?

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

For it is by GRACE you have been **saved, through FAITH** - and this not from yourselves, **it is the GIFT of God** - not by works, so that no one can boast.

For we are God's workmanship, **created IN Christ Jesus TO DO good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)**

**For WE are God's masterpiece.**

**He has created us anew in  
Christ Jesus, SO we can do  
the good things he planned for  
us long ago.**

# **QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why is Growing in Christ the most important thing I can do to discover my Spiritual Gift?**
- 2. What else can I do to discover my Spiritual Gift?**
- 3. Why is important to be willing to Give, and Serve, and Encourage, others no matter what our Spiritual Gift may be?**