

# Romans 12:6-8

## One Body, Different Parts

### 1. 12:4-5 - Many Members in One Body

- a. Paul continues teaching about how we present our bodies (12:1):
- b. v1, as a living sacrifice in service - v2, as transformed by God's will – v3-5, now...
  - i. ... as many parts of one Body in Christ, with all the members joined together.
- c. 12:4-5 - Different members do different things, but all are one Body w/one Head. Col 1:18
- d. This is the doctrine of the church. Our bodies parts of the church (one Body). Eph 3:6, 4:16
- e. *[No longer teaching trees (promised kingdom), but the operation of one Body (mystery)]*

### 2. 12:6 – Having Gifts

- a. Paul mentions gifts (with lists) in three places: Rom 12, 1 Cor 12, and Eph 4.
- b. Christians reading passages on gifts are like kids on Christmas, “where’s mine?!”
- c. Some read 1 Cor 12:31 as a loophole on the 10<sup>th</sup> commandment but don’t finish the verse.
- d. If we explain they have ceased, some won’t hear anything else - 1 Cor 13:8-13
- e. Avoid 3 mistakes: 1) gifts as natural abilities, 2) gifts still occur 3) this no longer applies.
- f. If you think these passages are to help you discover your gift, you’ve missed the point.
- g. The point → It is not about gifts, but about how the Body works, thinks, grows up.

### 3. Gifts Differing According to Grace

- a. *“signs shall follow them that believe”* - Mark 16:17 - *“all filled ... and speak”* - Acts 2:4,33
- b. Powers given for signs of Christ, kingdom, apostleship, were to be seen - Lk 7:19-22, 10:9
- c. These sign gifts were evident to all, and there was no question who had them.
- d. These signs were promised to Israel (1Co 1:22), and for Israel to enter their kingdom.
- e. What was given to Israel (Rom 3:2, 9:4-5), and what was given to the Body differ. 12:3,6
  - i. Rom 9-11 is evident that Israel is fallen, the days of their signs are numbered.
- f. *“according to grace”* – gifts differ. What God gives is different (eg. Gospel, church, gifts)
  - i. Not all gifts are signs (which are meant for unbelievers) - 1Cor 14:22
  - ii. Not all receive the gifts, but all have the Spirit, one Body - 1 Cor 12:13, 29-30
  - iii. Not all gifts always require divine anointing / special power - 1Cor 12:28, Rom 12:8
- g. Why do gifts differ acc. to grace? The audience, purpose, goal (Body) - 1Co 12:11, Eph 4:12

### 4. 12:7-8 - Grace Gives Responsibility

- a. *“have not the same office”* - 12:4 speaks to responsibility, duty, performance.
- b. Romans 12 - Different offices: there is a better way than thinking highly of yourself.
  - i. Be sober about your membership in the Body. You are one of many. 12:3-5
- c. 1 Corinthians 12 - Gifts are manifest, there is a better way than making known your gift.
  - i. Gifts for all to profit, we need every part, show charity. 1Co 12:7,22-25, 13:13
- d. Ephesians 4 - Gifts given to some, there is a better way than only some working.
  - i. We all can function as one Body, complete, grown, every part supplying. Eph 4:16
- e. The Body has different parts, but every part works together to edify the whole.

**5. 12:7-8 – The Proportion of Faith**

- a. None of these are 'showy', but are all positions where we can think ourselves higher - 12:3
- b. *"let us prophesy"* was to be for the edification of the church - 1 Cor 14:3-4, 14:12
- c. *"proportion of faith"* - you in relation to every man who is given the measure of faith.
- d. You are one part of many in one Body. Whatever you are given, it is part - 1 Cor 14:36-37
- e. *"or ministry"* - Ministers might see themselves above, but to minister is to serve/labor.
- f. *"let us wait"* - Like a waiter, it means attend to that, not for your own profit/gain/acclaim.
- g. *"on teaching"* ... others to learn, not to create a following that worships your knowledge.
- h. *"on exhortation"* ~*def* To encourage to good works, warn, caution. Not tear down, devour.
- i. *"giveth ... with simplicity"* – Not to be recognized, for self-honor, stingy, calculated.
- j. Money makes you feel superior. Giving with the right heart is a grace lesson - 2 Cor 9:7
- k. *"ruleth with diligence"* - Not being lazy, or vainglorious. Rulers often pampered - Phil 2:3
- l. *"mercy with cheerfulness"* – If you are giving mercy, someone has offended you.
  - i. You can hold it over others. Mercy given should be a gift, not a bitter pill.
- m. Don't think more highly than you ought to think. Be sober with your gift/office/position.

# The Complete List of Spiritual Gifts in Paul's Epistles

## **Romans 12:3-8**

1. Prophecy
2. Ministry
3. Teaching
4. Exhorting
5. Giving
6. Ruling
7. Mercy

## **1 Corinthians 12:8-11**

1. Word of wisdom
2. Word of knowledge
3. Faith
4. Healing
5. Working of miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of spirits
8. Divers kinds of tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

## **1 Corinthians 12:28-30**

1. Apostles
2. Prophets
3. Teachers
4. Workers of miracles
5. Healing
6. Helps
7. Governments
8. Diversities of tongues

## **Ephesians 4:11**

1. Apostles
2. Prophets
3. Evangelists
4. Pastors
5. Teachers