

ROMANS
2026
Aug 30th, 2026

VIII. Living Out the Truth of the Gospel

Rom 12:3-15:13

Part 1: Rom 12:3-8 - "Grace in Community" - Key verse: 12:3

1. For by the grace given me (Similar to verse 1) I say too every one of you:

- a. Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather, think [of yourself] with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has distributed (*"allotted/apportioned"*) to each [of you].**
 - *The idea here is to see yourself as God has made you, not comparing yourself to others in your gifts and service. Serve God appropriately.*
 - *Don't try to be someone else, be yourself and love God and your neighbor.*
- b. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and [these] members do not all have the same function,**
 - so in Christ we, though many form (*"are"*) one body, (Eph 4:1-6)
 - and each member belongs to all the others. (1 Cor 12:12-26)
- c. We have different gifts (*"gifts of grace"*) according to the grace given to each of us. And everyone has been gifted by God to serve (1 Cor 12:7, 11; Eph 4:7; 1 Pet 4:10).**
 - If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith (*with whatever you know and believe regarding the faith*). Also, prophesy as used here and elsewhere in Paul's letters seem to speak of the declaration of what God has already revealed - preaching (1 Cor 14:29). Elsewhere in scripture there is seen a revelatory aspect to prophesy as well as it referring to musical praise (e.g., 1 Chr 25:1-5).
 - If it is serving, then serve (Gal 5:13-14). This gift (*"ministry,"* or *"service"*). Some people's calling is to lend a hand, to jump in and help where help is needed.
 - If it is teaching, then teach; (e.g., 2 Tim 2:12; Rom 15:14).
 - If it is to encourage, then give encouragement. (To *"come along side"* another to lift them up. It may be verbal encouragement, it may involve physical help etc.).
 - If it is giving, then give generously (Lke 22:25-26 shows the attitude needed). *This speaks not of the support of the church but of help for people in need. Not by the church corporately but by us individually.* (E.g., Prv 3:27; 21:13; Gal 2:10; Jas 2:14-19; 1 Jhn 3:16-18)
 - If it is to lead (*"preside over/manage/rule over"*), do it diligently; (1 Tim 5:17)
 - If it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. *"Mercy" = to have or to show compassion by word and/or deed, "works of love."*

This is not a teaching about the gifts of the Spirit per se. It is more about our attitude in serving.

OK, to summarize: in view of God's mercy/grace, offer yourself for service. Sound familiar? See 12:1

Do not try to be someone you are not, offer yourself to God and do what you can. This is for Him, give your best and do it cheerfully. Don't sit on your hands

On another practical note: Don't desire other's gifts/ministries, be yourself. Be open and eager to serve and be sensitive and realistic regarding God's equipping and leading in your life.