



— Week 3 —

This weeks focus scripture: Romans 12:3-8

This weeks extra reading: *Ephesians 2:10, 1 Peter 4:10, 1 Corinthians 14:3, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

This weeks memory challenge: 1 Peter 4:10 *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

— Study and Reflection —

Day 1: Read and meditate on Ephesians 2:10 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.* What are the implications for you, in your life right now, that as a follower of Christ, you are the **workmanship** (a creation representing God's divine creative power) of God?

Read Romans 12:3-6a. Prayerfully consider and journal the unique way in which God has shaped you- His workmanship- so that He may express His purposes through you? Why is it important for us to have 'sound judgement' (from NASB) about how God has created us?

Day 2: Focus on verse three of Romans 12. Why is humility so important for us as followers of Christ? Using a concordance (search engine) or your own Bible knowledge, what are other scriptures that speak to the importance (and gift) of humility? Read through what you find, and journal what God shows you through these passages.

Day 3: Read Romans 12:4-6a. Paul places great emphasis on both the diversity and unity of believers. Why are both of these so important to the church? Likewise, why is it so important for us to understand that we are a body, and essential to each other within the community of believers? The NASB says in verse 5 that we are "*members one of another.*" What do we miss (and cause the church to miss) if we withdraw ourselves from expressing our gifts within the fellowship of believers?

Day 4: Verse six of Romans 12 states that our ‘spiritual gifts’ are a result of the “*grace given to us.*” How does this expand your understanding of the meaning of God’s Grace?

Read verses 6-8. Prayerfully consider, and journal, how you see any of these gifts in your life. In what way are all believers called to express some of these gifts?

☞ *Notes from Sermon Outline* ☞

† The great gift of knowing WHY you are!
Ephesians 2:10

† The Context of COMMUNITY
1 Peter 4:10
1 John 4:20-21

† The foundation of HUMILITY
Romans 12:3

† Unity in Diversity: The miracle of being ONE BODY in union with Christ
Romans 12:4-5

† Vive la différence!
Romans 12:6-8

Reality! Spiritual Gifts are not mystical experiences focused on ourselves, but *practical and unique* expressions of God’s GRACE at work in and through each of us.

- The gift of PROPHECY
1 Corinthians 14:3
- The gift of being a SERVANT
- The gift of being one who TEACHES
- The gift of being one who ENCOURAGES
- The gift of being one who GIVES
- The gift of being one who LEADS
- The gift of being one who shows MERCY

† The gift of Communion: Because of the Cross, the proclamation of *who* we are, *whose* we are, and *why* we are!
1 Corinthians 11:23-26