

## AMBASSADORS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

### Hallmarks of a Church Member: Giving

July 27, 2025

1. Key Verses: Dt 10:12–13; Mt 20:25–28; Ga 5:13
2. Definition
  - A. Serving/helping are virtually synonymous terms. (Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28):
  - B. The divine enablement to sacrificially and submissively help meet the needs of other Christians.<sup>1</sup> (see Acts 6:3-4; Phil. 2:25-30)
  - C. One of the results of regeneration is that the child of God experiences not only the love of God that results in a lifestyle of willing obedience but also the love of his fellow believers that results in a life of sacrificial service. (John 4:7; 1John4:8, 16; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:16; 1 John 5:1)<sup>2</sup>
3. Do you think Biblically, accurately about your spiritual gift?
  - A. The fourth and final major section of Romans can be entitled “The Gospel Applied: The Transforming Power of the Gospel of Grace.” (Romans 12:1 – 15:13) First “A Gospel Response to God.” We see that He deserves our body and our mind as living sacrifices to Him (12:1-2)  
  
What does today’s paragraph address? (12:3-8) “A Gospel Response to Service” Paul begins now to explain the implications of the gospel in our lives with our service in the church to the body of Christ.<sup>3</sup>
4. Do you see your gift and your service in the church as the first expression of being a living sacrifice to God?
  - A. For most Christians, total commitment to God is neither radical nor extraordinary. It is very, very ordinary. It means using your spiritual gift in the life of the church.
  - B. John chapter 21:15-17 Jesus **“Do you love me?”** Peter, **“yes. I love you.”** And what does Jesus say? **“Then, shepherd my sheep. Feed my Lambs.”** In other words, express your love for Me, Jesus says, by loving My people.
5. Do you see your service in the church as a grace that God has given to you?
  - A. **“God has allotted to each a measure of faith.”** (vs 3)  
  
**“to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit.”** (1 Corinthians 12:7)
  - B. **“we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us.”** (vs 6)  
  
The Spirit **“distributing to each one individually just as He wills”**  
(1 Corinthians 12:11)
  - C. Each one has received a *charismata* - a spiritual *grace gift* to serve, **“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”** (1 Peter 4:10)

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<sup>1</sup> John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, eds., [\*Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth\*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017), 385.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. 589.

<sup>3</sup> Tom Pennington, Sermon: *Romans Gifted to Serve (Part 1) Romans 12:3-8* (Countryside Bible Church, Southlake, Texas, 11/10/2019)

D. What is a spiritual gift?

A unique capacity for service that God has given to every true Christian that he did not possess before salvation

Your spiritual gift is not a natural talent that you were born with. However, you can exercise a spiritual gift through a natural talent

6. Do you understand that using your giftedness in the context of the church is a command of Jesus Christ your Lord?

A. why does this matter?

Notice in both verse 3 and in verse 6 the similar phrases **through the grace given to me** vs 3 and **according to the grace given to us** vs 6; Paul saw, and we should see any opportunity of ministry and service as a gift of God's grace

B. Who does this concern?

"For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you." every single Christian. vs 3

C. What does this paragraph command of us? A negative and a positive.

**"not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think."**

**"but to think so as to have sound judgment."**

7. Paul provides two key strategies for thinking accurately about your spiritual gift.

A. Remember that your capacity to serve in this church is a sovereign, gracious gift of God

B. Remember that you are only one member of Christ's body and that the other members matter and that your role is to serve them

8. Ephesians chapter 4 is a passage about what life in the church is to be like.

A. Ephesians 4:15, Christ is the head and the rest of us are His body.

B. How do we as a whole grow? Verse 16 Christ accomplishes the growth of His body.

C. The body of Christ only functions in the way God designed when you are doing your part - when you are using the giftedness God has given you so that every part of the body functions the way God designed.

9. Where can we use our giftedness in the church? **The Ministry Fair next Sunday 8/3** presents all of the ministries of the church that you can volunteer to become involved in. You can find out information about them and talk to someone that can help you with your questions.

10. Two weeks **Sunday 8/10** - we will study **Fellowship** and the following **Saturday 8/16** a **Brunch** together in the Fellowship Hall from 10-Noon.