

Sermon Discussion Questions

"Gifts of Grace" Romans 12:3-8 February 19, 2017

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Opener:

What is your custom when someone gives you a material gift? Always receive it, include it in your life, and give thanks? If you don't like it, no need to include it in your life or give thanks? Some blend of these two? Other?

Group Interaction: [The following content is meant to supplement the sermon, to offer further points of interaction with the sermon texts. Also, feel free to facilitate your own discussion regarding the sermon or text.]

- 1. There is an emphasis on "think" in Paul's instructions in verse 3. Why do you think there is this emphasis at this point in the passage?
- 2. What is the difference between thinking "more highly than you ought to think" and thinking "with sober judgment?"
- 3. How can the realization that we are members of a body prevent us from thinking too highly of ourselves? Or too low of ourselves?
- 4. Paul uses the Greek word for "gift" 16 times, 6 of which are in Romans. The only other time this word is used in the New Testament is in 1 Peter 4:10. Examine the 5 other occurrences in Romans and discuss what you learn about how Paul uses this word: 1:11; 5:15; 5:16; 6:23; 11:29.

Application:

- 5. As you think "with sober judgment" about yourself, what gift(s) do you think God has given you?
- 6. What keeps you back from using your gifts more fully? How can your group help you remove any barriers, or seize any opportunities, to use your gifts more fully?
- 7. What does it look like to you or your group to use your unique blend of gifts in ways that are "holy and pleasing to God"?

Pray God would renew and inspire you to exercise your gifts within the body of Christ. Ask him to show you what that means -- for yourself and for the lives of those in your group.