

Romans 12:3-8

Good Stewards of God's Varied Grace

"...Think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned." (ESV)

Paul's primary concern is that we think rightly about our gifts and ourselves: humbly, moderately, temperately, not overboard. This involves several threads, which intersect at this place in the passage:

1. Servanthood

Mark 10:43-45

- a. Serving God means _____.
- b. We serve with our _____.
- c. God gives us grace not only to save us individually, but also to enable us to serve each other.

2. The entire Christian life is by grace through faith.

I Peter 4:10-11

Colossians 1:28-29

Romans 15:17-18

- a. Our abilities are gifts that God freely, graciously bestows on us.
 - b. Paul demonstrates that we serve each other _____.
"...all my calling, all my gifts, all my authority is a work of free grace in my life. I don't deserve it. I didn't muster it up. It isn't owing to my self-wrought abilities and skills. It is all of grace." - John Piper
 - c. God will give you the grace and the faith to do whatever he has gifted you to do.
3. In practice, faith and works are inseparable. I Corinthians 15:10. What are you doing with your salvation? Philippians 2:12-13. God works it in; you work it out.
4. The Sovereignty of God, especially as seen in the Lordship of Christ: He assigns gifts to the members of his body as he sees fit.
5. The body of Christ: we are one body, but diverse members.
6. Spiritual gifts: See yourself in the body of Christ through the lens of your gifts.