

**KEY
PASSAGE
OBSERVATIONS**

In Romans 12:3-8, the Apostle Paul tells us uses the analogy of our bodies having multiple parts that each serve a separate purpose to make our bodies function properly, similarly, we each has a role as part of the body of Christ. As such we must function act on our role in order for the body of Christ to be functioning properly. I believe this is why Paul warns us to be "**honest** in your evaluation of yourselves by the **faith** God has given us." In the context of this passage, it is important to note that by having this God-given "faith" we believe that we have a purpose and a role for the kingdom of God. Additionally, we must be "honest" with ourselves when we're applying this "faith". Just as we wouldn't hear with our feet or breathe with our hearts, it is equally applicable that roles in the body of Christ be aligned with our gifts. Vs. 6 says by "In his grace, God has given us different gifts". His "GRACE". He didn't have to do this, he chose to give us gifts. We should choose to cherish these gifts and apply them to kingdom work. Our gifts are "different" from one another. Even people with the same spiritual gifts have different functionality. Not only should know what these gifts are and be honest in our self-assessment of them, but perhaps the most important point to note in this passage is to do our gifts "well":

- Don't hold back, "speak out with **as much faith** as God has given you." (vs. 6)
- Don't just serve others, "serve them well." (vs. 7)
- Don't be a mediocre teacher "teach **well.**" (vs. 7)
- Encouragers, ACT... "**BE encouraging.**" (vs. 8) - BE is a verb
- Givers, "Give **generously.**" (vs. 8) - don't give the minimum, don't give begrudgingly. The Merriam-Webster dictionary says generous means "characterized by a noble or kindly spirit, liberal in giving, marked by abundance or ample proportions"

**Romans
12:3-8
(NLT)**

Key Words:
"honest",
"faith",
"grace",
"well",
"different"

**Repeated
word: "body"
(bodies)**

Repeated

³ Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. ⁴ Just as our **bodies** have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's **body**. We are many parts of one **body**, and we all belong to each other. ⁶ In his grace, God has given us different **gifts** for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your **gift** is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your **gift** is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has

**Analogy of
body - all the
organs and
components
of a body
must function
for the body
to be
productive
and to
survive,
likewise, as
Christians,
each one of us
serves in a
different
capacity for
the purpose of
the good of
the whole
body of Christ
might function
properly.**



**word:
"gift"**

given you leadership ability, take the responsibility
seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness
to others, do it gladly.

**Application
of our gifts.**

PRINCIPLES

- We have each be given different gifts. (vs. 6, 1 Cor. 12:8-10)
 - Just as the physical body is made up of many parts that each have different functions, the believers of Christ are intended to act together and fulfill different roles/functions in order for the body of Christ to function as it was intended. (vs. 4-5)
 - It is by God's grace that we been given gifts and we have free will to apply them. (vs. 6, 2 Pet. 1:3, 1 Tim. 4:14)
 - It is our responsibility to act on our gifts... don't "neglect the spiritual gift you received" (1 Tim. 4:14)
 - It is our responsibility to perform our gifts well, in abundance, generously. (vs. 6-8)
 - It is important to be honest in determining your gifts and acting them out. (vs. 3, 2 Tim. 1:6)
 - We should continue to grow and mature. (Eph. 4:13)
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**PARALLEL
PASSAGES**

Eph. 4:7-13; 1 Cor. 12:8-10; 2 Pet. 1:3; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6
