

Useful by Grace

Romans 12:3–6 | Pastor Darrin Wright | October 11, 2026

Main Idea

God's grace gives us a right view of ourselves, joins us to one another in Christ, and equips us to serve for His glory and the good of His people.

Sermon in Brief

Romans 12:3–6 brings a life offered to God into the relationships and service of the local church. Paul calls believers to think soberly about themselves, recognizing that everything they have received comes by grace. That gives us reason for gratitude and faithful service.

As members of one body in Christ, we have different functions and need one another. God graciously equips His people with gifts to build up the church. He calls us to use what He has given us, trusting His strength and caring for others.

Main Points

1. The Humility That Guards Us — Romans 12:3. Grace teaches us to think honestly about ourselves. Our gifts come from God, so we can acknowledge them with gratitude, without exaggerating our importance or dismissing what He has given us. Humility frees us to serve without competing for recognition.

2. The Unity That Binds Us — Romans 12:4–5. Believers are members of one body in Christ, with different functions and a shared life. We need one another's prayers, encouragement, correction, and practical help. Our belonging becomes visible as we share burdens, rejoice together, and welcome the care others offer.

3. The Gifts That Equip Us — Romans 12:6a. God gives every believer gifts by grace for the building up of His church. These gifts differ, and He calls us to discover, develop, and use them. Faithful service depends on His strength and seeks the good of others, including through work that goes unnoticed.

Key Quotes

“Grace makes you useful by making you humble.”

“We don't have to compete with somebody else's gifts. We don't have to despise what God has given us because it seems small.”

“We're not just Christians who happen to attend the same church. We're members of the same body. We belong to one another.”

“You can't do it alone. You need God's grace and the grace that God supplies through his people.”

“God hasn't given us gifts to leave unused, but to use for His glory and the good of His church.”

— Pastor Darrin Wright

Reflect & Respond

• A gift or opportunity I can thank God for is…

• A comparison or proud assumption I need to release is…

• Someone whose help I need to welcome is…

• One person I can serve this week is…

Useful by Grace This Week

Put one gift to use. Read Romans 12:3–6 and 1 Peter 4:10–11. Identify one need in your church family and choose a concrete way to help with the ability, time, and strength God has given you. Follow through this week. If you are unsure where to begin, ask a ministry leader for guidance.

Practice belonging. Reach out to one person in your church. Ask how you can pray or help, and share an appropriate need of your own. Make room both to offer care and to receive it. Romans 12:4–5 reminds us that we belong to one another.

Prayer

Father, thank You for saving me through Christ and making me part of His body. Give me an honest view of myself and gratitude for what You have given me. Help me welcome the care of others and use my gifts with love. Strengthen me to serve faithfully for Your glory and the good of Your people. Amen.

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