

Sermon questions for Romans 12:3-7
Grace church 1/29/2023

1. The theme of this section of Romans is serving God as an outflow of thankfulness and love to God for His mercy in saving us. (Romans 12:1-2). Verses 3-8 describe the necessary attitudes and action of those who would serve God.
2. In 12:3 What are we told NOT to think about ourselves? Describe what this attitude would look like.
3. Would thinking too highly of ourselves affect our serving God and others? If so, how and why?
4. To correct thinking too highly about ourselves we are to think with 'sound judgment'. This means thinking realistically about ourselves according to what God says about us. What are some truths God has revealed about us and our salvation that would keep us from being prideful?
5. To correct thinking too lowly of ourselves Paul mentions things that are true of every Christian in Rom. 12:3-5. What are they? What effect does it have on you knowing these things are true of you? What difference could it make if you didn't know these things?
6. In 12:6-8 he lists seven different spiritual gifts or abilities. The first is prophesy. Prophets were those gifted to bring God's revelation to His people. They did this sometimes through foretelling future events, sometimes through giving new revelations and sometimes through proclaiming existing revelation. The first two uses were primarily related to laying the foundation of God's revelation (now recorded in the NT) for the church (Eph. 2:20). The last use of this gift may relate to those who proclaim God's existing revelation for the edification of the church (1 Cor. 14:3). This could be described as those gifted to preach God's word. They were to do so "according to the proportion of his faith" which probably means 'corresponding closely to the revealed faith (of God's word). In other words, make sure preaching is biblically accurate.
7. What does 2 Tim. 2:15-16 tell us about how the word should be and NOT be preached? What does 2 Tim. 4:1-2 tell us about preaching? Do you think it matters HOW the Bible is preached? Why or why not?
8. In Rom. 12:7 it says those who are gifted to serve must serve. The word serve meant 'practical acts of service'. What are some ways God's people can practically serve one another? What are some ways they did this in Acts 2?
9. God doesn't tell us how to discover our spiritual gifts. Though some are gifted to serve (eg. Deacons) all are called to serve one another (Gal. 5:). Though some are gifted at giving, all are called to give (2 Cor. 8). Though some are gifted at evangelism, all are called to do so (Acts 1:8). Therefore, we must all serve in the various ways God commands us, and in our serving we will discover ourselves to be more inclined and fruitful in certain areas. These are probably our spiritual gifts.
10. Describe areas that you have the most inclination, desire and fruitfulness in? What areas do you think the Lord has gifted you to serve?
11. Describe ways you are serving or desire to serve in the areas you are gifted in. What will you plan on doing to develop and use your gifts?