



Talents: Using What God has Given You

Romans 12:1-8

Must Be Honestly Assessed



- Paul spoke by grace, understanding that his talents and their use were a gift.
- God expects **sound judgement** in assessing our talents
 - Requires experimentation
 - Requires honesty with the results
 - Not thinking too highly of ourselves – 1 Cor. 14:1-5
 - Not undervaluing our gifts – 1 Cor. 14:1-5
 - We need to trust God that the talents we have are the best ones for us to use to His glory.

Must Not Cause Division

- We are given varied roles, or functions, which must be embraced – 12:4-5
- We cannot allow our function in the body to cause a rift.
 - How you feel about **your** talents must not cause separation – 1 Cor. 12:14-18
 - How you feel about **other's talents** must not cause separation – 1 Cor. 12:21-25
 - No matter your talent, you must know that it comes from God and has value in its function within the body.



Romans 12:4-5

Must Be Used

- This list of gifts is different from what we normally think about gifts.
- Our talents mean we have benefitted from God's grace – 12:6
- **Parable of the Talents** – Matthew 25
 - Some are given more talents than others – 25:14-15
 - Whatever talents I have, God is pleased only when I use them for His glory – 25:16-27; 23:10-12
 - The use of your talent has eternal consequences – 25:28-30

