

(1) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God --- which is your spiritual worship! Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the Will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

(3) For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

(4) For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

(6) Having then gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Think on These Things

- 1) Altar sacrifices are a primary focus in the books of Exodus through Deuteronomy. Take a look at Leviticus 1:3, 10; 2:1, and 3:1. What were the primary conditions for selecting animal or grain sacrifices? What does Paul say in verse 1 is to be the “condition” of your own sacrifice?

- 2) Think about the outcome for the animal. What is that outcome? So how do you reconcile being a “living” sacrifice with your body? Paul specifically says here, “body.” He doesn’t use the term mind or heart. Why body? See Romans 6:11-14; Galatians 2:20; and James 2:14-18.

- 3) Verse 2 is in “command” structure in Greek. We are commanded to do two things; what are the commands? Do you think we should try to be like everybody else?

Command 1 - _____

Command 2 – _____

Be like others? _____

- 4) Let’s focus on a couple of terms here. Transform comes from the Greek “metamorphousthe,” from which we get the English “metamorphous.” Remember elementary school: it is the

caterpillar changing into a butterfly. Now read 2 Corinthians 5:17. Since we can't transform ourselves, how does this happen? See John 16:13-15; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16; Ephesians 1:13-14.

- 5) When your mind is transformed and "made new again," what are you able to see and understand?

- 6) What is the Christian's perspective on life supposed to be (v.3)? See also Micah 6:8; Philippians 2:3-8; and 1 Peter 5:5.

- 7) The irony is that the teaching from Q6 is covered in all three major passages on spiritual gifts; why do you suppose that is? See Romans 12:3; 1 Corinthians 12:21-26; and Ephesians 4:2-3.

- 8) Let's identify the spiritual gifts from today's passage. List the gifts found in verse 6-8.

<u>Gift</u>	<u>Guidance on how to use it</u>

NOTE – The three primary passages announcing Christian spiritual gifts are found here: Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 27-31; and Ephesians 4:11-13, with church applications given in 1 Peter 4:7-11.

- 9) Let's summarize: why does God give individuals spiritual gifts (v.5 and the NOTE passages)? Do you know your own spiritual gift(s)?

People and situations I want to pray for this week: