WEEK TWO
HUMBLY AS ONE

Romans 12:3 write the verse

It can become second nature to compare ourselves to others. The pitfall with comparison is that we can either believe ourselves to be less than what God created us to be or we can become prideful and arrogant.

We can look at others and decide that if we are doing better than they are, then we have arrived. Too often people, including the saints, can look at life like a scale. The thought goes something like this, “As long as I am a better person and do more than such and such then I must be okay. "

When we think this way, the enemy can easily deceive us into assessing our worth based on worldly standards, which we learned last week we should be transformed from.

“BUT TO THINK SOBERLY,”

To think of oneself soberly is to exercise self-control or place a moderate estimation upon oneself. This does not mean we

think less of who God created us to be but rather that we think less of who we are in this world and more of living in our strengths without self-centeredness.

"...ACCORDING AS GOD HATH DEALT TO EVERY MAN THE MEASURE OF FAITH."

Process this truth, that the very measure of faith that you possess is only there because God gave it to you. All by God's grace.

> But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Ephesians 4:7

Scripture gives us many warnings about becoming puffed up or prideful.

Read the verses below and summarize the warning.

Proverbs 16:18	Philippians 2:3	Galatians 6:3

If we begin to think too highly of ourselves, we will quickly become conformed to the world. We must remember that it is

God who gives us the grace to be a living sacrifice and the faith required to be transformed.

Romans 12:4-5 write verses

So, moving into verse four and five we will look at the sum of the verses. If you surrendered your life to Christ, you are no longer your own. You are now a child of God and part of the body of Christ. At our conversion, we became part of a body, and each body part is needed to serve in their given function (office).

Write down a time when your body wasn't working properly. It could have been an ailment, or a body part.

How did it affect your daily routine?

Was it harder or easier to get things done with someone to help?

I don't know about you, but when one part of me isn't working right, it honestly messes with everything else. Even simple stuff gets harder, and my daily routine takes forever.

I Corinthians 12:12-14 write verses.

Now circle every time it states, "one"

Do you feel like Paul is making a point? Why do you think it is important for us to understand being one?

Each part of our bodies is uniquely and wonderfully made to function together and independently as needed to serve and glorify God. When one part of the body stops functioning properly it puts a strain on the body as a whole.

“HAVING THEN GIFTS DIFFERING..."

Romans 12:6-8

There is a terrible lie that seems to have infiltrated the body of Christ, and it tells believers that we should all have all the gifts. This is against what scripture teaches. Just in the last few verses, we have learned that we have differing gifts and abilities.

If we all had all of the abilities to serve in all the areas, we would have no need for others. We would simply be a body part with one function.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-26

Summarize what Paul is trying to convey to the reader.

It is clear that there is not one single person, part of the body, which is not important to the LORD. Regardless of others opinion or value of someone -we all have a place and a worth in the body of Christ.

If we look back at 1 Cor. 12:25, Paul states, "that there should be no schism in the body;" meaning we should not be divided but rather support one another in our gifts. This is why we should never isolate ourselves from fellow believers. God designed us to have different personalities and gifts so we could work together for His glory. We are each a puzzle piece that has a place!

“... ACCORDING TO THE GRACE THAT IS GIVEN US,”

Paul once again makes it abundantly clear that it is not us who does the gifting, but of God's grace.

We cannot drum up more gifting; we cannot be effective for God’s Kingdom when we strive to serve in areas we have not been called.

Now, we can support others in their calling by serving alongside them. We can pray, seek, and surrender all of us to what the Lord has for us in each moment of the day, but it is not in our own strength or ability to muster up spiritual gifts outside of God's grace.

Only our creator can know what our created purpose is. Part of being a living sacrifice is being able to defer to God's design of who He Created each of us to be and what Our purpose and talents are.

For we are His workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus unto good works,
which God hath before ordained
that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

Looking at the rest of verses 6-7, list below the gift and the descriptor that Paul includes for each. Then write down how each gift could be lived.



Look back over the list of gifts in verses 6-8. Now think about the qualities and characteristics that would make someone excel in each area and fill in the chart below.

Spritual Gift	• Quality/Characteristic
Prophecy (Proclaim God's Word)	• Bold, Listening for God, Studies the Word
Ministry (Service/Deacon)	
Teach	
Exhort (Encourage)	
Giver (Contribute)	
Ruler (Leader)	
Mercy (Bring Help)	

The qualities that make for a strong leader may not be the same qualities that serve a gifted giver. The characteristics that make for a great server (minister) may not work for someone who is called to teach others.

So, how does this relate back to our reasonable service?

When we live conformed to the world we will use our gifts (talents) for personal gains in order to get as much for ourselves. as possible, or we will choose to sit on our gifts out of fear or laziness.

Living transformed means, we understand all our abilities come by the grace of God and choosing to serve with those talents as part of the body of Christ to bring glory and honor to the Lord.

> As every man hath received the gift, [even so] minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:10

