



**Romans 12:6-8** 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

**Romans 12:4-5** For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

**Romans 12:1-2** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and

pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### Icebreaker

When you were a kid what do you remember looking forward to being able to do as an adult? Did your grown up experience live up to your childlike expectations?

### Conversation Starters

**Have someone in the group read Romans 12:6-8. What jumped out at you?**

1. What happens in your head and in your heart when you hear, "You don't have to be good at everything?" Is there anything in your life (marriage, family) right now that you might need "permission to not be good at" and ask for some help?

**Have someone in the group read Romans 12:4-5. What jumped out at you?**

Together **we** form one whole thing. The things you do as an individual affects the "we" the whole, family, work place, community.

2. Tell a story about a time you were on a team where everyone had specific gifts and talents that made the whole thing work.
3. When has it been important for you to think of the "We" and not only the "Me"?
4. When have you done that well? When is it hard to still know what the answers are?

**Have someone in the group read Romans 12:1-2 What jumped out at you?**

5. In what area of your life (work, hobby, child raising) can you relate to, "Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. In Kurt's words you, "become what is right and you'll know what to do?" Is there any place where you feel like you just naturally know the right thing to do? Do you trust yourself to do it?
6. What does "offer your bodies as a living sacrifice" make you think? Is it a good thing? A recipe for disaster? Where do you feel like you are already doing that or have done that? What gets in the way?
7. What do you think your partner's top gifts are that he/she contributes to the marriage, the family, your friend group, the broader world?

Pray with and for each other.