

## Roll Up Your Sleeves

**Jeremiah 29:11** – “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

- “Destiny is discovered, not decided.” [Mike Murdock]

**Romans 12:1-8** – I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

<sup>3</sup> For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. <sup>4</sup> For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup> Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup> or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

- **Vs. 4 & 5:**
  - “function” – mode of acting or operating.
  - “individually members of one another” – mutually dependent on one another. [AMP]
- **Vs. 6** – “gifts” – CHARISMA.

**Romans 11:29** – “For the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable.” [Good-speed – “for God does not change His mind about those to whom He gives His blessings or sends His call.”]

**Prophecy. Vs. 6b** – if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; [Not: ministry of a prophet; gift of prophecy.]

- **Motivation:** right versus wrong, good versus evil, true versus false. An intense desire to correct what is seen as wrong.

**Ministry. Vs. 7a** – *or ministry, let us use it in our ministering;*

- **Motivation:** to render practical service to needs in the lives of individuals, families, churches and ministries. An ability to see and meet practical needs as quickly as possible, keeping the mechanics of ministry moving.

**Teaching. Vs. 7b** – *he who teaches, in teaching;*

- **Motivation:** probe – seek answers to questions, clarifying the basis for everything. Loves researching, studying and learning. It is focused on details, background, and accuracy.

**Exhortation. Vs. 8a** – *he who exhorts, in exhortation;*

- **Motivation:** to encourage & motivate people to grow in Christian maturity. It is an inner desire to bring a lift to people.

**Giving. Vs. 8b** – *he who gives, with liberality;*

- **Motivation:** to give a share of what one possesses, to honor the Lord or advance His work. A desire to invest one's self and resources in the support of others.
- “*with liberality*” – free from pretense or hypocrisy; openness of heart manifesting itself in liberality.

**Leading. Vs. 8c** – *he who leads, with diligence;*

- **Motivation:** to envision and coordinate the activities of others for the achievement of common goals. A desire to organize or coordinate personal responsibilities.
- “*with diligence*” – zeal; singleness of mind.

**Mercy. Vs. 8d** – *he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.*

- **Motivation:** to identify with the joys and distresses of others. Desires to take action and remove hurts (especially emotional hurts) and bring healing to others.
- “*with cheerfulness*” – HILAROTES; cheerful readiness.

**I Peter 4:10 [AMP]** – *“As each of you has received a gift (a particular spiritual talent, a gracious divine endowment), employ it for one another as [befits] good trustees of God's many-sided grace – faithful stewards of the extremely diverse [powers and gifts granted to Christians by] unmerited favor.”*