

Comments About Romans 12:7

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BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a discussion about the words of the apostle Paul found in Romans 12. It is my perspective that Paul's writings in chapters 1-11 could be classified more as comments about doctrine and spiritual concepts, whereas the words in chapter 12 can be viewed more as Christian-living topics.

Last week, we discussed in Romans 12:6 and the gift of prophecy. This article will discuss Romans 12:7 and the gifts of ministry and teaching.

Positive words

Notice what Paul wrote in Romans 12:7.

Romans 12:7—"Or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching."

Gift of service

Here are some scriptures that discuss the gift of ministry (or service).

Matthew 4:11—"Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him."

Matthew 20:25-28—"But Jesus called them to Himself and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.' "

Matthew 23:11-12—"But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

2 Timothy 1:16-18—"The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain; but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me. The Lord

grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day—and you know very well how many ways he ministered to me at Ephesus.”

Hebrews 6:10—“For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Gift of teaching

Here are some scriptures that discuss the importance of the Son of God as a disciple’s main teacher.

Matthew 23:8-10—“But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren. Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.”

James 3:1—“My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.”

Here are some verses that discuss disciples using the gift of teaching.

Acts 28:30-31—“Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.”

Romans 2:21—“You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?”

Colossians 3:16—“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Hebrews 5:12—“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.”