Introduction

There are three questions every believer must answer.

- The Question of Lordship – Whom will I serve?
- The Question of Lifestyle – Whose standards will I live by?
- The Question of Life’s Direction – What am I going to do with my life?

Today’s question is:

How can I use my gifts for God’s glory?

It begins with thinking rightly about ourselves, our fellow believers and our gifts.

I. We are to think rightly about ourselves. Romans 12:3

We are not to think too highly of ourselves and be proud or conceited.

On the other hand, we are not to think too little of ourselves.

We are to think of ourselves with sober judgment.

We are to think about ourselves according to the measure of faith God has given us.

- Measure means standard and the standard for every believer is Christ.
- If we are growing in our faith, our capacity for service will also grow.
II. We are to think rightly about our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. Romans 12:4-5

Paul uses the analogy of the human body to describe the church. It emphasizes three things:
1. The unity of the church. We are one body.
2. The diversity of the church. We have many members.
3. The mutuality of the church. We need one another.

We are one body with many members who belong to one another.

III. We are to think rightly about our gifts. Romans 12:6-8

Every believer is called to the same standard of holiness and dedication (Romans 12:1-2), but how we serve in the body will be different (Romans 12:6-8).
What do we learn about spiritual gifts from this passage and others?

1. We all have one. No one is left out.
2. This list of spiritual gifts is not exhaustive. There are at least nineteen spiritual gifts mentioned in Scripture. I Corinthians 12 and I Peter 4:10-11
3. Spiritual gifts may be in line with our natural abilities, but they are empowered by God to accomplish his purposes.
4. How we use our gifts is Paul’s focus here.
5. Every gift is given by God’s grace. There is no place for pride.

“I would rather be a layman in the North Shore Baptist Church than to head the greatest corporation in America. My first job is serving Jesus.” James L. Kraft

Conclusion

Lord help me,
To see myself as you see me;
To affirm and encourage my brothers and sisters in the body of Christ; and
To use my gifts for your glory. Amen