

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... Romans 12:1 (NIV)

Selfless with gratitude

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. Romans 12:3 (NIV)

Humble and empowered

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function. Romans 12:4 (NIV)

Unique and united

So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 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; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 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 12:5-8 (NIV)

Focused with enthusiasm

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Romans 12:9-11 (NIV)

...humbly accept the Word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

James 1:21-22 (NIV)

Faithful serving keeps your faith growing.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. How have you been served in your walk with God? What has someone done to help your faith grow?
- 2. What can you do this week to put these words into practice? In what areas of service are you interested, and how can you get involved?