

# Cultivate Reflection Guide

## When in Rome: How to Find My Gifts

July 17 & 18, 2021

If you missed this weekend's messages, watch at [cultivate.sc/discussion](https://cultivate.sc/discussion)

Since the start of 2021, we've been learning *what* we believe as Christians and *why* we believe it. As we continue our When in Rome series this summer, our focus shifts to *how* we live out what we're learning. When what we believe changes how we live, we experience REAL growth!

Use our Reflection Guide for personal study throughout the week, to start a REAL conversation with friends or under the direction of your community group leader. Choose the questions that challenge you to reflect and respond as you live out what we're learning. Keep in mind...*it's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

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**Reflect/Respond:** How were you personally encouraged, instructed or challenged by the message? This could be a word, verse or point that got your attention or got you thinking.

**Read Romans 12:3-8 NIV** <sup>3</sup> 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 judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> 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; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> 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.

**Where We Are:** Finding our gifts begins with a REAL assessment of where we are in Christ. Do you believe that before anything you do, you are loved and accepted by Jesus? If so, describe how that acceptance makes a difference in your life. If not, what obstacles (thoughts, ideas, experiences) are keeping you from receiving God's love?

**Who We Have:** We were created out of family – God, the Father, Jesus, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Paul calls the Church to live as a family sharing life together because of our shared faith in Jesus. In the church, we are both uniquely us and we belong to each other. To be whole and healthy, we need each other.

- How has your personal experience with family either encouraged or challenged your willingness to see the church as family?
- High self-esteem tells us we don't need anyone while low self-esteem says nobody would want us. Neither is the truth. Do you see the value and necessity in living out your faith in community, both being encouraged (receiving) and encouraging others (giving)? Why or why not?
- If you're in community, reach out and express your gratitude for the opportunity to do life together. If you're not in community, visit [cultivate.sc/community](https://cultivate.sc/community) to get connected today.

**What God Has Given:** In His grace and goodness, God has given us each spiritual gifts for our benefit and for the benefit of others, including our church family and community.

- What gift(s) do you believe God has given you? How have those gifts benefited you? What about others?
- If you're not sure what your gifts are, take some time to consider:
  - your passion – what you enjoy
  - the possibilities – what you have tried doing and are good at
  - people – those you can trust to share the gifts they see in you
- We serve to the degree that we understand how Jesus has served us. If you're not already, how could you use your gifts to start serving the family of God?