



FILTERS

Part Three - Talents

INTRODUCTION:

We see the world as we are taught to see it. As a result, we hold to views that hold us back. But when we see as God sees, we tend to do as God says. This is even true in the area of our talents. God sees our talents as things we need to discover, develop and deploy. If we attune ourselves to his perspective, it can revolutionize the role of talents in our lives. When we see our talents as He does we understand they are for other's good and God's glory.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you were growing up, what talents do you think came naturally to you? Did other people affirm that discovery in you?
2. Read Romans 12:3-8. In the Roman church there may have been people who thought of their gift being superior. Paul encourages them not to see themselves more highly than they should. Do you think there are some gifts or talents in the church that are held in higher standing than others? Why?
3. From the list of gifts/talents in Romans 12, which talent do you think you possess? How have you discovered, developed and deployed your talents/gifts?
4. It's tempting to see our talents/gifts as something we can leverage for our own benefit. How can we use them for the good of others and the glory of God?
5. Have you experienced a time when you felt God's pleasure while you were using a talent/gift you have been given? If so, tell the group about that experience.
6. What is one thing you can do this week to begin to see your talents and gifts the way God sees them? How can this group support you and hold you accountable?

MOVING FORWARD

You have been given talents and gifts. And they need to be discovered, developed, and deployed. Look for ways to use them for the benefit of others and to bring glory to God. When you do, you'll experience the pleasure and joy your Heavenly Father always intended for you.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 4:10-11 NIV