YOU’VE GOT PERSONALITY

Romans 12:1-8

INTRODUCTION:

 A. S.H.A.P.E

A. Spiritual gift(s)

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| “*…each of us has our own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.”* |  | 神得來的恩賜，有人是這樣，有人是那樣。 |
| I Corinthians 7:7 |  | **哥林多前书 7:7** |

* The Bible lists as least 20 different gifts.

Everyone gets one

B. Heart passion.

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| “*God has put it into their hearts to accomplish His purpose.”*  |  | 神要眾王行他的旨意，就把意念放在他們心中， |
| Revelation 17:17 |  | **启示录 17:17** |

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| *For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for His own chosen purpose.* |  | 神為了成全自己的美意，就在你們裡面動工，使你們可以立志和行事。 |
| Philippians 2:13 |  | **腓立比书 2:13** |

* What drives and motivates us? What makes your heart beat a little bit faster, what gets you going?

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| *There are different abilities to perform service* |  | 工作的方式也有許多種，但仍是一位　神，是他在眾人裡面作成一切 |
| I Corinthians 12:6 |  | **哥林多前书 12:6** |

C. Abilities

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| *I* [God] *have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship*  |  | 我也用　神的靈充滿了他，使他有智慧，有聰明，有知識，有能力作各樣的手工， |
| Exodus 31:3 |  | **出埃及记 31:3** |

* A person has between 500-700 different abilities.

D. Personality

* Involvement is not just for extraverts.

E. Experiences

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| “*And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into His plans.”* |  | 28 我們知道，為了愛　神的人，就是按他旨意蒙召的人的益處，萬事都一同效力。 |
| Romans 8:28 |  | **罗马书 8:28** |

II. WHY ME?

A. We have been shaped for ministry.

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| “*For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*  |  | 我們原是　神所作成的，是在基督耶穌裡創造的，為的是要我們行各樣的善事，就是　神預先所安排的。 |
| Ephesians 2:10 |  | **以弗所书 2:10** |

B. We have been called into ministry.

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| “*God, in His grace, chose me even before I was born, an called me to serve Him.”* |  | 15 然而，當我在母腹裡就把我分別出來，又用他的恩呼召我的那一位， |
| Galatians 1:15 |  | **加拉太书 1:15** |

C. Our participation is irreplaceable.

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| “*All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate an necessary part of it.”*  |  | 27 你們就是基督的身體，並且每一個人都是作肢體的。 |
| I Corinthians 12:27 |  | **哥林多前书 12:27** |

I. PUTTING OUR PERSONALITY IN PERSPECTIVE

A. Step 1: Dedicate ourselves.

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| “*I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you.”* |  | 所以弟兄們，我憑著　神的仁慈勸你們，要把身體獻上，作聖潔而蒙　神悅納的活祭；這是你們理所當然的事奉（“理所當然的事奉”或譯：“屬靈的敬拜”）。 |
| Romans 12:1 |  | **罗马书 12:1** |

* All of us—not just part of us

B. Step 2: Eliminate competing distractions.

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| “*Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way that you think.”*  |  | 不要模仿這個世代，倒要藉著心意的更新而改變過來，使你們可以察驗出甚麼是　神的旨意，就是察驗出甚麼是美好的、蒙他悅納的和完全的事。 |
| Romans 12:2 |  | **罗马书 12:2** |

*How do we think about our dedication to God?*

 *— time & money*

* We can’t burn the candle at both ends.
* Our calendar fills up with everything but ministry.

C. Step 3: Evaluate our strengths.

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| *“Be honest in your evaluations of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith that God has given…”*  |  | 我憑著所賜給我的恩典，對你們各人說，不可自視太高，高於所當看的，反而應該照著　神分給各人信心的大小，看得適中。 |
| Romans 12:3 |  | **罗马书 12:3** |

* Play to our strengths.

D. Step 4: Cooperate with others.

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| “*Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body* [the church]. *We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”* |  | 4 就像一個身體有許多肢體，各肢體都有不同的功用； 5 照樣，我們大家在基督裡成為一個身體，也是互相作肢體。 |
| Romans 12:4-5 |  | **罗马书 12:3** |

* How to Get Along With Others

1. Be aware of personality differences.

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| “*A person’s wisdom gives them patience.”*  |  | 人的明慧使他不輕易動怒；寬恕別人過失的，是自己的榮耀。 |
| Proverbs 19:11 |  | **箴言 19:11** |

* + Can we perceive why people act the way they do?

2. Accept personality differences.

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| “*Accept each other just as Christ has accepted you.”*  |  | 因此，你們應當彼此接納，就像基督接納了你們一樣，使榮耀歸於　神。 |
| Romans 15:7 |  | **罗马书 15:7** |

How has Christ accepted you?

 He has accepted you worts and all.

 He has accepted you sin and all.

* It is easy to be critical of others.

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| “*Let us stop turning critical eyes on one another. Let us rather be critical of our own conduct…”* |  | 所以，我們不要再彼此批評了；倒要立定主意，決不作絆倒弟兄或使他跌倒的事。 |
| Romans 14:3 |  | **罗马书 14:13** |

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|  “*Generously make allowances for each other because you love each other.”*  |  | 凡事謙虛、溫柔、忍耐，用愛心彼此寬容； |
| Ephesians 4:2 |  | **以弗所书 4:2** |

3. Appreciate personality differences.

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| “*All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.”* |  |  你們就是基督的身體，並且每一個人都是作肢體的。 |
| I Corinthians 12:27 |  | **哥林多前书 12:27** |

* We need to respect each other.

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| “*Have a profound respect for each other.”* |  | 要以手足之愛彼此相親，用恭敬的心互相禮讓。 |
| Romans 12:10 |  | **罗马书 12:10** |

* + Negative attitude/behavior?

E. Activate your gifts and abilities.

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| “*God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So…speak…serve…teach.. encourage… lead…show kindness…”* |  | 6 照著所賜給我們的恩典，我們各有不同的恩賜：說預言的，就應當照著信心的程度去說； |
| Romans 12:6 |  | **罗马书 12:6** |

CONCLUSION:

Romans 12:1-8 (ESV)

A Living Sacrifice

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers,[a] by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.[b] 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Gifts of Grace

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members,and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.