

# Calling

**General  
(values)**

To faith  
and faithfulness

**Personal  
(vocation)**

To a role  
In the Body of Christ

*Paul is a champion of the church as the  
Body of Christ with diverse members.*



## *1 Corinthians 12*

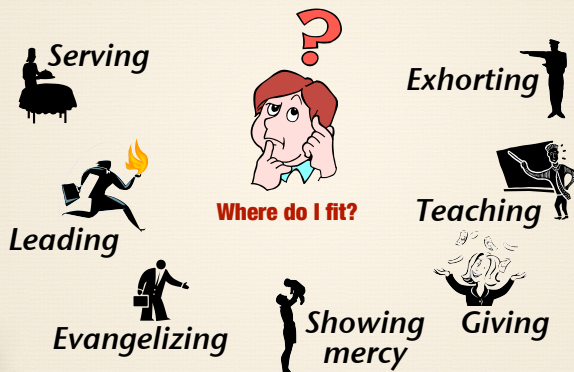
“<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of **gifts**, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> And there are varieties of **ministries**, and the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> And there are varieties of **effects**, but the same God who works all things in all persons. <sup>7</sup> But to **each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.**”

motivations (gifts)	ministries (opportunities)	manifestations (effects)
passion	position	production
Rom.12:7-8	Eph.4:11	1 Cor.12:7-11

*Each member has a function -  
passion, role, gift, calling (Rom.12:7-8)*



*Many Christians are spectators  
who do not know their role.*



*Some are afraid to know  
their role or calling.*



**Some think that their gift sets the standard for spirituality.**

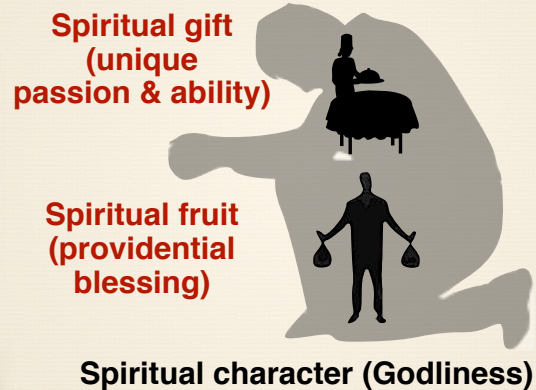


**Some Christians are misfits.**



## How can we find our place and walk in it?

**Don't confuse character with gifts or fruit.**



**Romans 1:1**

"Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,"

**The heart of one called as an apostle is revealed in**

**Romans 1:2-17**

**What is an apostle?**

1. An apostle is one who is "sent out."
2. There are two types of apostles -

The 12 who witnessed the resurrected Jesus	Many others
Apostles of Christ	apostles of the church
Foundation of the church	Extension of the church

3. What characterized an apostolic gift?

- ➔ **Insight** into Christ Jesus
- ➔ **Passion** for the Gospel & the church
- ➔ **Boldness** in pioneering ministry

### Romans 1

"1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, for His name's sake, 6 among whom you also are called of Jesus Christ; 7 to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

"8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world. 9 For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you, 10 always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you. 11 For I long to see you in order that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established; that is, that I may be encouraged together with you while among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine. 12 And I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that often I have planned to come to you (and have been prevented thus far) in order that I might obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles."

"14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. 15 Thus, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Gentile. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, *But the righteous man shall live by faith.*"

### **Becoming a "bond servant" is not an option in Christian service.**

1. It is a response to God's call and grace.
2. It is a commitment more than an instinct or emotion.
3. It is a giving up of a self centered life.
4. It is a necessary step to seeing our role and walking in it.

### Mark 8

"33 But turning around and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind Me, Satan; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's." 34 And He summoned the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 35 For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's shall save it."

"1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus,"

### Romans 12

"1 I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

“... called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,”

*Romans 12*

“<sup>3</sup> For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

<sup>4</sup> For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup> And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

**How can I find my place and walk in it?**

- 1. The grace of God must be deeply sensed.** “by the mercies of God”
- 2. The cross of Christ must be willingly carried.** “present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice”
- 3. The gifts of the Spirit must be properly used.** “according to the grace given to us”

**The second step to  
“Body Life” is becoming  
a living sacrifice.**

**Surrender your life  
and then  
follow your passion.**