Ministry of Spiritual Gifts, Part 3 John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 12.
- B. Paul calls us to total consecration to God.
 - 1. There comes a turning point in life when we give ourselves totally to Jesus Christ.
 - 2. We do this so that we can maximize our usefulness.
 - 3. Our sacrifice is an act of humility.
 - 4. Paul calls every believer to ministry.
- C. The gifts here are broad categories. There are many forms of the gifts. They should not be oversimplified.

II. Preaching.

- A. We preach according to the grace given us.
- B. If we are not preaching, someone else is.

III. Service.

- A. This could refer to any kind of service.
- B. Everybody's gift of service is unique.

IV. Teaching.

- A. Teaching is the gift of passing on analytical instruction.
- B. Without this gift the church cannot survive.

V. Exhortation.

- A. This means to encourage and comfort.
- B. It can be applied broadly.
- C. This calls for a right response to the truth. It challenges people to act consistently with God's will.

VI. Giving.

A. This means to impart one's earthly possessions.

B. One is to give with simplicity without an ulterior motive. (2 Corinthians 5, Acts 2)
C. It is to be done joyfully.
VII. Ruling.
A. This is to be done with speed or haste.
B. It means to manage. (1 Corinthians 12:28)
C. It is a gift that the church needs. (1 Timothy 3)
VIII. Mercy.
A. It means to show compassion.
B. These people minister especially to the downtrodden and deprived.
C. Those who have mercy are happy. (Proverbs 14:21)
Application Questions:
1. Why is it important to understand that there is a diversity of gifts and expressions within a gift?
2. How can one go about determining his or her gift?
3. Which gift do you think you have? How can you maximize it in the church?