**“Super Powers”**

Going deeper in Romans 12:3-8

**INTRODUCTION -** Romans chapter 12 is a transition point. In chapter 11, Paul wraps up the theological portion of his letter to the church in Rome and turns his pen towards the practical significance of what he has been writing about so far. Chapter 12 opens with the word “therefore”. This one word gathers together all of the teachings in chapters 1-11 and confronts us with the question “So what now – what are we to do with all of this teaching”? What does it mean for us as followers of Jesus Christ?

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

 **3**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 measure of faith God has given to you. **4**For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, **5**so in Christ we who are many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. **6**We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8  if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. How do you think of yourself? How could our church family help each family member feel valued and vital?

2. What does it mean to you that in the body of Christ, the church, “each member belongs to all the others’?

3. What are your Spiritual Gifts? How are you (or how could you) use those gifts to serve Christ and his church?

4. What holds people back from serving in the church?

5. How could you help someone who is not sure of their gifts or how they can serve?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Give thanks for our church and each one of its diverse family members!

\*Pray for those in our church family who may not feel closely connected and for opportunities to help them become more connected.

\*Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you in how you can best use your spiritual gifts to serve Christ and the church.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Questions to consider as you reflect upon Paul’s teaching in Romans 12:3-8:

\*How have these verses changed the way you think of yourself and how you think of others? \*How have they changed the way you view your church? \*How will they change the way you use your gifts in and for your church?