



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE *By Billy*

Read Romans 1: 1-8

Don't want to rush in to a study of the distinctive nature of each gift because they are not processes that can be turned on and off at will.

- We would do well to avoid the example of Simon the sorcerer who imagined that he could secure the control of God's gifts by human means. (*Acts 8:18-19*).
- In reality, we must begin with the Giver. We must marvel at His mercies and stand in awe of His majesty.
- There is a reasonable service to be made in response to God's mercies..
- *"Use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God"* (*Rom.6:13 NLT*).
- *Rom 12:1* tells us to present ourselves to God in such a way as to be available to be used for His service, literally, to stand before Him.
- Whatever our service to God is to be and whichever of His gifts we are to exercise: we must begin with this level of consecration.
- In order to be transformed our minds need to be enlightened by the Spirit of God who renews (renovates) our thoughts and attitudes. (*Eph. 1:18 and 4:23*).
- The more we turn our hearts to the Lord in this way, the more we are being changed progressively into His image. (*2 Cor.3:18*).
- 'Union with Christ is vital. His life actually flows into ours, renewing our inner nature and imparting spiritual strength.' (Milliard J Erikson).
- I would encourage each one of you to reflect and meditate regularly upon the great truths of scripture in order to enable such transformation.
- The spiritual gift should not draw any attention to the minister but to the Lord who is the Giver of all good things, healing, anointed worship, teaching etc.
- *"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."* (*1 Cor.12:7 ESV*).
- Some of you may reason that you have no gift from God because you have so little faith. Wrong.
- God has assigned you and me a portion of faith and he expects us to step out in faith and use those gifts ALREADY imparted to us accordingly.
- To insist that we have no gift or function in the church is almost like saying that we are not a part of the body of Christ.
- Once you and I were baptised into the body, we were each given a unique calling that no other part of the body can fulfil. (*Rom.12:4-5*).



WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Events /Notices

- ▶ **Late Night Prayer** on Friday 26th February (provisional date)

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

- ▶ **Crèche and Pre-school Praise**

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 2-5 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

- ▶ **Sunday School**

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11)

- ▶ **Tea and Coffee**

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (*Hebrews 13:2*).