

## Romans 12:6

*Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;*

The latter part of 2024, I had a heart surgery where the doctor implanted three stents into my heart. That's all a story in itself of how God intervened and literally saved my life. But that may be for another devotional.

But for today's devotional, there are three people that I will use as part of a true, but also fictitious story. That would be my son, who works at a tire store (Which he really does), my doctor and me. So the true part of the story is that I was scheduled on an early Tuesday afternoon to have my heart surgery.

So let's say (This is the fictitious part) that my doctor was driving to the hospital to perform this surgery on my heart. On the way, he got a flat tire, and his car was towed to where my son worked, and my son changed his flat tire. Now when my doctor got out of the waiting room at the tire store and saw my son, who had just changed his flat tire, he said to him, "*Why aren't you a doctor, don't you know that you could do a lot more by being a doctor, let alone all the money you would make as well?*"

After hearing that, my son would feel useless, thinking that he does not matter because he is not a doctor. But I would beg to differ. You see, if everyone was a doctor, who would have fixed my doctor's flat tire, so that he could go to the hospital and do the surgery, which literally saved my life. No matter how good my doctor is, he could not have done what he needed to do if he did not get his flat tire fixed.

But the sad part is that some in the church do the same thing. They will say things like, "*Why aren't you out street witnessing like I am?*" Or as part of the worship team I could say, "*Why aren't you learning how to sing or play an instrument so you can worship like I do?*" or the pastor could say, "*Why aren't you studying the bible and pastoring your own church like I am?*" Some may think, "*Why is not everyone tithing as much as I am?*" or "*servicing as much as I do?*" or \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank)

✠ **1 Corinthians 12:17-18** *If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.*

If you are serving in the church in any capacity, do not ever let anyone make you feel that what you are doing does not make a difference. Just as my son changing tires makes a difference in people's lives more than he probably knows. So do the things we do in the church and for the kingdom of God, probably doing a lot more that we think it is. Because us doing those so-called, "little task", are a part of the big story that God is doing in the church. Just like if my son had

changed a flat tire on my doctor's car (if it were true), which would have made a huge impact on my life, and helped saved my life. But if my son didn't, because he was out training for something he was not called to do, the impact would have been the opposite because I would not get the surgery I needed. And if you think about it, how would it had affected my son's life, my wife's life, my family and friends lives as well?

So let's do the things that we do in the church knowing that it can make that kind of difference in the lives of others. And if you are a doctor in the church (so to speak) do not belittle others because they are not like you. But rather encourage those who change the tires in the church, because we all need each other to do the work of God together. Remember that even the Lone Ranger had Tonto, and needed him to do his job, which was to help and save the lives of others.

† **Philippians 2:3-4 (NLT2)** *Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

† **Hebrews 10:25 (NLT2)** *And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*