

# AVAILABLE (Part 2) - "What Am I Willing to Offer?"

### **Romans 12:1-6 NIV**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. 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 faith **God has distributed to each of 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, though 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.

#### **Luke 10:27 NIV**

Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind.

## **Key Points**

- In light of His kindness and goodness, God uses YOU.
- Offer precisely who you are your whole self.
- God created us, and that alone gives us worth.
- We don't fully know who we are; this is a life-long journey of discovery.
- Part of knowing and being known is my responsibility to share. It is also my responsibility to ask others to tell me what they see.
- God wants to redeem every single part of who we are but as long as they remain hidden, they aren't quite ready to be used.
- Community is not found, it is built.
- We can find out new things about ourselves by trying new things. To see, to know, to ask, to learn, to offer requires the power of God within us.

#### **READ**

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- Read Romans 12:1-2. What does it mean to offer your life as a "living sacrifice" to God, and how can you practically live out this concept in your daily life?
- Read Romans 12:3. How can humility and a proper assessment of one's abilities and gifts contribute to the unity and effectiveness of the Christian community?
- Read Romans 12:4-6. In what ways does the analogy of the body with its many members help us understand the diversity of gifts and roles within the Church and how each member contributes to the whole?
- Read Luke 10:27. What does it mean to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind" in practical terms? How can we apply this commandment in our daily lives? How do these two commandments, loving God and loving your neighbor, relate to one another?

#### **REFLECT**

- How does the idea that God uses us in light of His kindness and goodness impact your understanding of your purpose and worth?
- What role does vulnerability play in sharing our true selves with others, and why is it
  important in building community? How is that same level of courage needed in
  stepping out of our comfort zone and using our gifts and talents for the good of
  another?

#### **RESPOND**

- Share an experience where you discovered the power of community in your life. How was it built, rather than found?
- Discuss a time when you felt hesitant to share a part of yourself with others. What held you back, and what did you learn from the experience?
- How does the idea of God redeeming every part of who we are resonate with you, and what steps can you take to let go of hidden aspects of yourself?

## **PRAY**

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.