

## Will There Be a Test? - Empowered: Week 5

### Romans 12:1-21 – May 17, 2026

- Spiritual gifts tests can't tell you where you are gifted
  - An assessment can't distinguish between spiritual gifts, natural abilities, and acquired skills
  - Tests only ever reflect on things we have already experienced
  - You may not agree with the theology of that test
- Discovering Gifts in Romans 12
  - Surrender
  - Minds renewed
    - Lives transformed
  - Humility
  - Different gifts
    - for different people
  - Use your gifts well
  - Paul doesn't tell us how we determine what gifts we've been given

## 6 Considerations as You Discover Your Gifts

- Connect the Dots
  - If a potential gift shows up repeatedly across different situations over time, it may be a sign
- Points of Frustration
  - Where you consistently feel frustrated may point to your spiritual gifts.
- The Power Tool Principle
  - Like using a chainsaw instead of an ax
  - A spiritual gift comes with a sense of Spirit-enabled ease and effectiveness that goes beyond what discipline alone can achieve
- The Lost Sheep Principle
  - It can be helpful to recognize whether you tend to focus more on the group or on an individual person
- The Good Fruit Test
  - Do you sense God's nearness and delight when you do this thing?
  - Do others feel loved or ministered to?
- Community is key
  - It is almost impossible to discover your spiritual gifts in isolation