

LEADERSHIP GIFTS AND SKILLS - REFLECTION



I ask for what I desire as we begin this topic



I pray that my entire being become open to God's grace



I imagine these texts being addressed to me, and note my response

Grace: to be grateful for the gifts that I have received and to put them to use of a bigger mission than myself

Another time, when he was travelling from Valencia to Italy by sea and in very stormy weather, the rudder broke on the ship, and the matter got to the point where, in his judgement and in that of many who were travelling in the ship, they couldn't escape death barring a miracle. On thoroughly examining himself at this time, and preparing himself to die, he couldn't be afraid of his sins, nor of being damned, but **he felt great confusion and sadness from judging that he had not used well the gifts and graces which God Our Lord had imparted to him.**

Autobiography of Saint Ignatius [33]

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

The Parable of the Talents - Matthew 25:14-18

“...you must take care not to humble yourself to the point of yielding to a spirit of faintheartedness. God's gifts are not to be despised, even though we duly deprecate our own imperfections. Do not demean yourself or be wanting in courage. Be assured that we have a higher opinion of God's gifts in you than you yourself seem to have.”

Ignatius' letter “[to Filippo Leerno, Rome, December 30, 1553,](#)” pg. 454–455.

We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Romans 12:6-8

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. Which gifts have I received in my life? Where do I tend to focus more on my weaknesses rather than appreciate and develop my gifts?
2. Which gifts do I desire for a greater service of my mission?