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## Focus

A Newsletter published for clients and friends of Wagner Consulting Group

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### Leadership Lessons from Paul the Apostle

Paul's letter to the Christian Church in Rome offers some advice that is applicable to modern day business.

“Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ’s body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others.

“God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, then prophesy whenever you can – as often as your faith is strong enough to receive a message from God. If your gift is that of serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, do a good job of teaching.”

Romans 12: 4-7

#### Use individual strengths

A good leader seeks out the gifts each person has and supports the development of those strengths. Moreover, the leader should be aware of individual limitations, changing situations, and recognize those occasions when something other than the “normal” approach is needed. I think Paul touched on this issue when he added “as often as your faith is strong enough” to his admonition to “prophesy whenever you can.”

#### Teamwork

Paul clearly recommends a team approach to carry out a mission. Implied in his message is mutual respect for each other’s gifts and work. The effective leader lets the entire team know that overall success depends on mutual respect, support, and individual flexibility. “That’s not my job” will not be heard from a member of a committed team.

#### Humility

Finally, a true leader knows that they cannot “do it” alone. Even if they could, their organization would be wholly dependent on them – not a good plan!

#### Theological Afterthought

Paul wrote Romans while he was traveling to raise money from Gentile Christians to help Jewish famine victims in Jerusalem. That unity of purpose among a diverse group of people is a good example of teamwork to achieve a common goal.

*Tom Wagner*

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identify the Right Questions  
and solve the Right Problems.

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