



ROMANS

Strong faith for life



- The gospel is not just the way that we **begin** in Christ; it's also the way we **grow** in Christ.

God's will flows out of **who we are**, more so than what we do.

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. 2 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. Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

Question One:

- What does it mean to be a **living sacrifice**?
- Moment by moment we're doing whatever **God wants**.

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NIV)

Question Two:

- What does it mean to be conformed to the **pattern of this world**?
- I take my **values, standards, and priorities** from the world around me.

The values, standards, and priorities of this world reflect **Satan's lies**.

1 Once you were under God's curse, doomed forever for your sins. 2 You went along with the crowd and were just like all the others, full of sin, obeying Satan, the mighty prince of the power of the air, who is at work right now in the hearts of those who are against the Lord. 3 All of us used to be just as they are, our lives expressing the evil within us, doing every wicked thing that our passions or our evil thoughts might lead us into. Ephesians 2:1-3

Question Three:

- What does it mean to **renew your mind**?
- I align my values, standards, and priorities with **scripture**.

31 ...Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

To be changed from the inside out:

- It starts with a decision to give God **permission**.
- **Input** always determines **output**.

What do I **watch** and **read**?

Who do I **hang out** with?

Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces. Proverbs 13:20

Don't hang out with angry people; don't keep company with hotheads. Bad temper is contagious— don't get infected. Proverbs 22:24-25

- **Flee** what's harmful, **feed** what's helpful.
- Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts. 2 Timothy 2:22
- The gospel produces in us a mind that is **set** on God and **satisfied** with God.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:
These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What does it mean to you that the gospel is not just the way we begin in Christ, but also the way we grow in Christ?
- What would you say it means to Experience God's Will in your life?
- Would you consider yourself to be a living sacrifice? What does that mean to you? What does it mean that as living sacrifices we are "Holy" and "Pleasing to God"?
- Do you struggle with being conformed to this world? How do we change that?
- What does it mean to you to renew you mind? How can we intentionally do this consistently?
- Have you given God permission to change you? What can we do when we don't feel like being changed?
- Why is it that what we allow in is so important to who we become? Think about all the things we need to monitor. (The different areas of input)
- If you can share, what are some things you have had to flee so that God could change you?
- What does the last fill-in mean you ?

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Experiencing God's Will

Sunday, August 25th, 2024

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