

Romans 12

Key Questions

- How do we offer our bodies a living sacrifice unto God?
- How do we not conform to the image of this world?
 - o What does conforming to the image of this world look like?
 - Video presentation
 - o What are some things we need to stop doing?
 - o What are some things we need to begin doing?
- What does it mean to be transformed by the renewal of our minds?
 - o How do we renew our minds?
- What are the behaviors, patterns and values of the world? How are they different from that of Christ?
 - o Video Presentation and Bible Verses

Family Notes and Insights

Verses Notes

V1:

- We must present our bodies as a living sacrifice
- Holy: Holiness means to be set apart, pure, whole, complete in moral character
- Acceptable to God
 - o 1 Peter 2:5
 - o Hebrews 12:14
 - o Ephesians 5:1-2
- This is our reasonable service
 - o By the mercies of God, He gave His son as a propitiation (object of wrath) so that we could be saved and be imputed the righteousness of Christ.
(**Romans 3:22-25, 2 Corinthians 5:21**). To serve God is to be more like Christ who was all of these things all of the time. (**John 14:15**)

V2:

- This verse is often parroted, yet many times neglected
 - o **2 Corinthians 6:14-17** – Light is incompatible with darkness
 - o **James 4:4** – Friendship with the world is enmity with God
 - o **1 John 2:15-17** – The things of the world
 - o **1 Kings 11: 1-13** – OT Consequences of Mixtures/Being Unequally yoked
 - o **Hosea 7: 10-16** – Consequences of Mixing

- **Question:** How do we go into the world, preach the gospel, and not be conformed to the image of this world?
 - 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 – Becoming all things to all people so that they might be saved, call
 - Examples:
 - Dfsdfsdf
 - 1 John 2:15-17 – The things of the world: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (**Genesis 3:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11**)
 - Lust of the Flesh – “I want to **feel**”
 - Genesis 3:6 – ‘...the tree was good for food...’
 - Matthew 4:3 – ‘Command these stones to be made bread’
 - Deuteronomy 8:3 – “So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.”
 - Lust of the Eyes – “I want **that thing**”
 - Genesis 3:6 – ‘...that it was pleasant to the eyes...’
 - Matthew 4:3
 - Deuteronomy 6:16 - “Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted Him in Massah.
 - Pride of Life – “I want to **be somebody**”
 - Genesis 3:5-6 – ‘...they shall be as gods...’
 - Matthew 4:6,8
 - Deuteronomy 6:13 - Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve Him, and shalt swear by His name.
 - We see the contrast of Adam and Jesus echoed in **Romans 5:14**

V3:

- We should not think highly of ourselves
 - **Proverbs 3:34**
 - **Proverbs 16:5**
 - **Matthew 23:12**
 - **1 Peter 5:5-6**
- To think soberly is to not think highly of ourselves. This shows that a humble heart is a sober heart
- The Lord gave each of us a measure of faith.

- Ephesians 2:8
- We see that even faith is a gift from God and we should not boast in our knowledge of salvation or knowledge of God

V4-8:

- We are all granted a job/gift in the body of Christ and we are to use these gifts to edify the body
 - Prophecy
 - Minister
 - Teaching
 - Exhortation
 - Giving/Charity
 - Leadership
 - Mercy

V9-13:

- What is love without hypocrisy?
 - Sincere love, without pretense
 - **1 Timothy 1:5**
- We are to hate what is evil as God hates.
- What are some things that God hates?
 - **Proverbs 6:16-19**
 - Sins that are committed against God (**Exodus 20:3-11, Matthew 22:37**) and others (**Exodus 20:12-17, Matthew 22:39**).
- We are to cling to what is good
- We are to be kind to one another, patient in tribulation, continuous in prayer, hospitable

V14-16:

- We are to bless those who persecute us and not curse, rejoice and mourn with others. Associate with the humble, not the high things (pride of life)
- Do not be wise in your own opinion
 - Proverbs 3:5-6

V17-21

- Repay no one evil for evil
 - **Matthew 5:43-44**

- We are commanded to live peaceably with all men, to not avenge ourselves, vengeance is the Lord's
 - o **Deuteronomy 32:35**
- **Verse 20**
 - o **Proverbs 25:21-22**
- We should not be overcome by evil, but overcome by good
 - o Many times we are overcome by evil thoughts, anger, jealousy, strife, but we must overcome this with good.
 - o The Lord has shown us abundant mercy, and we should do the same for others
- This section echoes **Matthew 5:14-16** - ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

We are to be good to one another for the sake of the body and for the sake of unbelievers who are watching for hypocrisy.

Reflection

The Christian walk has always been a walk of piety, love and sacrifice. We are called to serve the Lord by preaching the gospel, treating our brothers and sisters with honor and treating the people around us with love. This love will cause us to tell the truth. Love rejoices in the truth. Today, many misplace love for tolerance. Therefore, when people call out sin or behavior that is not conducive of the Christian life, we are called judgmental. This, I believe is the enemy working through people. Alister Crowley, founder of the church of Satan had one commandment: "do as thou wilt". I believe the world has created a second commandment also: "do not judge". We as Christians are called to judge righteously, not hypocritically and hold each other accountable to the word of God in truth and love. Even Romans 12:2 tells us to not be conformed to the image of this world. This means we must make a judgement of the world and reject it. This inevitably causes offence to those who are of the world. We are not to think highly of ourselves, understanding that salvation and our talents are gifts from God. When we think highly of ourselves, we believe we are better at finding souls than God. We believe in marketing schemes and campaigns that are "seeker sensitive" which is not what the word calls us to do. We are to preach Christ crucified. We are to be the salt of the earth, to mitigate decay. When we become haughty, we begin to believe our opinions are greater than the bible. We will be tossed into any wind of doctrine that is not the truth.

We are to serve with cheerfulness.

Point: Adam and Eve in the garden and Jesus in the wilderness prove interesting facts about temptation, the pitfalls of our flesh, and the necessity of the world of God. While Adam and Eve sinned and fell to the wiles of the devil in the garden (place of refuge, abundance, beauty), Jesus prevailed against the devil in the wilderness while fasting (a place of uncertainty, danger, hunger). While the devil twists God's word to get Adam and Eve to become awakened and eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (verse), Jesus battles the temptation from the devil with the true word of God (verses). Jesus is giving us the blueprint to fight against our flesh and the devil using the word. We must have a dependence on the word (verse).

What is next for this lesson?

Create video for conforming to this world

Behaviors of the world that are not of God