Home Group Notes
Week of October 18, 2026
ALIVE! Through Faith in Jesus Christ
Romans 12

It's not too late! Men, you can still sign up to attend **"A Father's Legacy"**, October 23-24 (Friday, 7-9 PM, Saturday, 8-noon). https://tickets.afatherslegacy.org/events/trinitychurchredlands/2228777

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Marriage, parenting, and joining the military have something in common – life change.
Following Jesus means change throughout our lives. And it begins in Romans 12.
After eleven chapters of unveiling the good news that God has shown us mercy, grace, and love through Jesus, and has given us righteousness that we could never earn, God calls us to a process of change called "transformation." For this week, let's ask God to speak to us about how He wants us to transform – to change. Let's read through Romans 12 a few times and address the questions in the "Your time" section. Please pray that God will use you to encourage your friends when you discuss the questions in the "Group time."

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YOUR TIME OF LISTENING IN GOD'S WORD
What are your first impressions of chapter 12? What words or ideas are significant?

The first verse points to the "mercies of God." Reread 11:32 to bring this statement into context. What does the author "urge" (appeal) brothers and sisters in Christ to do? Why?
What is our motivation and inspiration to act on this appeal?

We are also told that this action of offering our bodies is our "reasonable / spiritual worship." This word is also translated as "service" (which will be the focus in vs. 3-8) which is "pleasing" or "acceptable" to God. When you put these facts together, what is your impression of life as one who has been shown mercy?

After the call to offer our bodies (1), the second verse calls us to transformation through the renewal of our minds. What is the result of these two actions?

A simple outline of this chapter might look like this:

- Those shown mercy gladly offer up their lives to God. (1-2)
- Those shown grace serve others in the faith and gifts God gives them. (3-8)
- Those shown love pour out His love to God's family. (9-13)
- Those blessed by God should bless all people including those lowly and evil. (14-21)

As God transforms our minds, we are called to ask God to help us judge the truth about how He has made us. What comes to mind for you? What is his main point about the list of spiritual gifts? (3-8)

It is our common mistake to be thinking about how others should be loving us. What has God shown you in this paragraph? (9-13)

Lastly, we are called to live 'unlike the world' in our fallen and needy world. Are there specific commands that made an impression on your heart and mind?

GROUP TIME: DISCUSSION OF APPLICATION FROM GOD'S WORD

Do you think offering up our bodies and minds is a one-time thing? Occasional? Daily?

How is this any different from following Jewish law?

In verse three, Paul calls "everyone … to not think of oneself more highly than they ought to think but to think with sound judgment." What do you think is his meaning?

Have you ever done this sort of a self-assessment? Was it helpful? What did you learn?

In a few sentences, Paul (and God) calls us to radically change our lives. He calls up God's mercies as the impetus to sacrifice our bodies and minds, and moves into how we should love and serve God's family and the world. How is this even possible? What have we learned in Romans and life to not be overwhelmed?