

# ROMANS

THE PRACTICE OF  
RIGHTEOUSNESS



## SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

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### LIVING SACRIFICES

ROMANS 12:1-2

MAY 31, 2015

### TAKEAWAYS

*Write out your one-sentence takeaways. Consider writing these on a notecard and putting it on your mirror, desk, or car dashboard.*

What to remember:

What to put off/put on:

What to share with someone:

### NEXT STEPS

*Here are some possible next steps to walk in this truth this week.*

- Memorize Romans 12:1-2 this week.
- Develop a reading plan that helps you not just check off reading the Bible but helps you personally meditate on the Word.
- Ask someone from your small group to coffee or lunch this week and share with them any ways they can encourage you to not be conformed to this world but to be transformed to Christ's image.
- Read Romans 1-11 and highlight some of "God's mercies."

### FOR FURTHER STUDY

*For those wanting to study some of the key ideas in more detail here are some cross-references and resources.*

- **Parallel passages:** Rom. 6:13-19; Col. 3:1-12; 1 Peter 1:13-21.
- **Don't be conformed:** 1 Peter 1:14; 1 John 2:15.
- **Transformed by renewal of mind:** Eph. 4:23; Col. 1:9-10; 3:1-2, 10; 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:6; Mark 9:2.

## APPLICATION & DISCUSSION

*These questions focus on the sermon text and message. We've highlighted key ones but use however many your group needs.*

- 1. From Romans 1-11, what mercies of God towards us in Christ did Paul mention? How does remembering those mercies motivate the response of being a "living sacrifice?"**
- 2. What are some practical ways you can daily present yourself as a living sacrifice to God? Are there any particular areas in your life right now you especially need to present to God?**
3. What are some ways we might knowingly be pressured to conform to the world? What are ways or areas we might unknowingly conform to the world?
4. What might it look like to pursue *both* not being conformed to the world *and* being transformed by God?
- 5. How does renewal of the mind help lead to transformation? What are ways you've seen maturity in your walk through renewing your mind by the Word and by looking to Christ?**
6. If you are presenting yourself to God, being transformed by God, and renewing your mind, how might you be well equipped to discern God's will?
- 7. What are ways we might pursue God's will selfishly? What are ways we might pursue God's will in the right ways? How can you lean into the latter?**

## HOW TO PRAY

*Pray over the praises and requests of those around you but here are some additional ways to pray into our passage this week.*

- Confess any areas you've withheld rather than presented to God.
- Thank God for some of the specific mercies in your life.
- Praise God for His Word and the Spirit to renew your mind.
- Offer all of yourself and all of your life again to God as a living sacrifice.
- Pray that God would transform you into Christ's image and keep you from conformity to the world.
- Pray for discernment to know and live out God's will in all of life.

## NOTES