

Getting Started

1. What has been your greatest sacrifice? What made it a sacrifice?
2. How often do you serve others? Do you find it difficult? Fulfilling? Joyful?
3. What hinders you from serving God? What hinders you from true worship?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 86:

Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits,¹ so that he may be praised through us,² so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits,³ and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.⁴

¹ Rom. 6:13; 12:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:5-10 ² Matt. 5:16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20 ³ Matt. 7:17-18; Gal. 5:22-24; 2 Pet. 1:10-11 ⁴ Matt. 5:14-16; Rom. 14:17-19; 1 Pet. 2:12; 3:1-2

Do you serve God so that he knows you are thankful for his mercy and grace?

6. The transition Paul makes in Romans 12:1, 2 is also seen Ephesians 4:1-7 and 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8. What are these passages teaching us?
7. We are ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20). As an ambassador what is your job?
8. Read 1 Peter 2:4, 5 and Hebrews 13:15. What is a spiritual sacrifice? What is the sacrifice of praise? How might a better understanding of this sacrifice aid us in serving God and worshipping him?

Application

9. All who confess Jesus with their mouths and believe in him in their hearts will be saved. Once we have been saved we live to serve God. That is why some say Romans 12:1, 2 is the pivot point of the New Testament. We have been saved by faith in Jesus to serve God. Salvation is the first step; a holy life is the second. How is your life a holy and acceptable living sacrifice to God?

Praying Scripture

Psalm 145

- 1 I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- 2 Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.
- 4 One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.
- 7 They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 The LORD is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · April 30, 2017

The Gospel: Class is in Session

“Responding to Grace”

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1, 2

- **We are to _____ all that we _____ to God for his _____.**

- _____ **God with all that we are, _____ we are, is _____ worship.**

Topics: Holy living, living sacrifice, God's mercy