

"Therefore, Surrender!" | Romans 12:1-2

- 1. Have a quick skim read of Romans 12. What are the themes which come out in this chapter after the 'therefore' in verse 1? For your information: in Romans chapters 9-11, Paul addresses the tension between the rejection of Jesus by many Jews and the inclusion of Gentiles into the family of faith. That's what comes before the 'therefore'.
- 2. What does Paul mean when he urges believers to present their bodies as a "living sacrifice" to God? Why is the concept of being a "living sacrifice" significant in the context of Christian living?
- 3. In what ways can Christians "be conformed to the pattern of this world"? What are some examples of worldly conformity? Discuss the tension of being in the world but not of the world (John 17:14-15) 'in but not of'? How does the church get this right/wrong? Discuss.
- 4. What does it mean to be "transformed by the renewing of your mind"? How/when does this transformation take place?
- 5. How can the renewing of the mind lead to discerning the "good and acceptable and perfect will of God"?
- 6. What role does surrendering to God play in the process of transformation? Can you think of areas of your own walk where fully surrendering is hard/impossible?
- 7. Can you think of any personal experiences or examples of individuals who have been transformed by renewing their minds in Christ? Share from your own experience too.
- 8. How does the concept of transformation in these verses relate to the idea of sanctification in the Christian faith?
- 9. What are some practical steps you can take to apply these verses in your daily life to live in accordance with God's will?
- 10. How does the idea of offering your body as a living sacrifice and renewing your mind impact your understanding of Christian discipleship?
- 11. Spend some time praying for/with each other as prompted by all that you've discussed.



