

HOW DOES ROMANS BECOME "TRUTH ALIVE" IN US?

Romans 12:1-2

Romans 12:1-2: Two Essential, Power-Packed Verses

Romans 12:1-2 *"Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."*

"Romans 12:1-2 is one of the best-known passages in the Bible—and deservedly so, for we find here a succinct description of the essence of the believer's response to God's grace in the gospel of Jesus Christ. It functions as the heading for all the specifics Paul will unpack in the subsequent chapters. Our response is rooted in God's grace."
—Douglas Moo

Paul's Call To Arms: "Therefore, I Urge You Brethren, By The Mercies of God..."

The Greek verb *parakaleo* = "to call to one's side"

We're To Present Our Bodies As Living Sacrifice, Holy And Acceptable To God

Presenting Ourselves As A Living Sacrifice Is Logical, Reasonable Worship

Logikos = logical, reasonable, rational.

Practical Suggestions:

We're Not To Be Conformed But Be Transformed

How can our minds be renewed?

So We Can Prove That God's Will Is Working Powerfully In Us

Questions For Reflection and/or Discussion:

- In what ways has God's mercy become a reality for you? How can you keep God's mercies in view this next week?
- Do you ever obey God out of fear? How so? How might you learn to obey Him out of gratitude instead?
- How might we be in danger of conforming too much to this world? What can we do about it?
- Can you suggest a way that you can present your body as a living sacrifice?
- Can you think of ways that your mind can be renewed by God? Have you experienced this "renewing" presently?