

Questions for Growth Group Discussion and Personal Reflection
Romans 12:1-2

Read the text.

1. Using as many references in Romans as you can remember or find, begin by describing the mercy to which Paul refers. How would you summarize this mercy in one sentence or even one word?
2. Along with Romans 6:13, 19 and 8:13, what does Romans 12:1 add to your understanding of the true scope of worship? How is this connected to the mercy we have received from God?
3. We know that, in our current condition, we are not perfect; we are not truly holy like God is holy.
 - a. Knowing that “holy” can mean perfection and being set apart for God’s purposes, discuss what it means to say that your life—your living sacrifice—is holy to God.
 - b. How would you expect this sort of “holiness” would manifest itself in the day to day world in which we live?
 - c. How does your offering merge with the church and combine with others to create a new and corporate offering to the Lord?
4. Do not conform to the pattern of this world.
 - a. Which “worldly patterns” are strongest in your life?
 - b. Which of the world’s “influencing forces” are most effective in shaping your own actions, attitudes or emotions into its own pattern?
 - c. Share some of the things you do to break away from them or share some of the things you do to more faithfully align yourself with God’s “pattern.”
5. It has been said that our interactions with others is God’s primary means of molding and shaping us into His image. Do you agree with this? Why or why not?
 - a. How do the people in your life (spouse, family, friends, co-workers, strangers) help you grow to become more like Christ?
 - b. What do you do to help others refine the alignment of their will with God’s will?

Closing

Close by talking about ways your group could be more intentional in helping foster this kind of growth. What are some of the barriers your group will have to overcome? What are some of the natural strengths that you may be able to better leverage? Close in prayer as you feel led.

Helping it Stick:

The response of worship begins with gratitude for what God has done. Think of three things you can do this week to increase your awareness of God’s grace in your life. Share these with a friend, practice them, and then report back to the friend at the end of the week.

For next week

- Read Romans 12:3
- Memorize Romans 8:28