

Transformed Living

As the apostle Paul continues to unpack the new realities of life for the early Roman Christians, he challenges them to live transformed lives—lives worthy of the grace and mercy they received in Jesus. Join us to study Paul's teaching in Romans 12-13 and discover how we might live in light of the gospel, renew our minds, and be living sacrifices for God. Let's walk with Paul through the process of discerning what transformed living means for our civic life. And finally, let us reflect on Paul's declaration that love is at the heart of a transformed life. As Christ followers today we can demonstrate the same love and compassion as Jesus Christ because of the help of the Holy Spirit. So how are we putting on Christ and being conformed to his likeness, and not conformed to the pattern of this world?

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What do you think life after becoming a believer is supposed to look like?
- Why does it matter how we live as Christians?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Transformed Living](#)

READ [Romans 12-13](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Do you have a distinct conversion story or experience? If so, did it change how you were living? Why or why not? If you do not have a single, clear conversion experience that changed how you lived, how do you thoughtfully discern whether your life reflects a life lived according to the patterns of this world or a life that is offered as a living sacrifice to God?
- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss the apostle Paul's long list of commands in Romans 12. They describe the commands as calls to love and live like Jesus did. Reread Romans 12 slowly. As you read, identify examples from the Gospels of times Jesus exhibited these ways of living and loving.
- Have you ever seen evil overcome by good (remember, overcoming doesn't always mean winning)? What did it look like?
- In segment 2, Scott and Darrell discussed Paul's message of submission to the Roman church and why the early Christians may have had difficulty submitting to Rome's authority. They also reflected on their own modern-day experience with politics and North American churches. As you listened to both of these discussions, did anything resonate with your experience in your context? How were you encouraged or challenged?
- How does renewing our minds lead us to lives of love as living sacrifices?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Colossians 3:1-17](#), [Mark 12:13-17](#), [Luke 10:29-37](#), [1 Corinthians 13](#)

CONCLUSION

How might you become a more lively living sacrifice? Reread Romans 12:1-2 and take an inventory of your lifestyle and habits using the following questions:

1. How are or aren't you using your body in ways holy and pleasing to God?
2. Are your habits in the pattern of the world or the pattern of the Holy Spirit?
3. What are you doing to pursue and learn about the Spirit's renewal so that you can be transformed more and more into Christ's likeness?
4. What practices do you have for discerning what God's will is?

Reflect on your responses and identify 1 or 2 ways you'd like to grow. Think about what spiritual practices might be helpful and commit to your spiritual growth in prayer and practice.

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