

TALKING POINTS

ROMANS - CHAPTER 12

LEARNING IN

If God, by His amazing love and mercy has shown up in our lives, then there is something we need to respond to. Our only reasonable response is to present our bodies on the altar of God as a living sacrifice.

This sacrifice is described in Romans in three distinct ways -

It is a living sacrifice. This is a bold call to TOTAL commitment. If God has been merciful to us, we have to have the bold response of committing ourselves back to Him. We must be Christians first, Americans second.

It is a holy sacrifice. We must see ourselves as totally set apart for God and His will for your life.

It is a new way of thinking. We should develop a new way of responding to life's circumstances.

Read Romans 12:1

What does presenting yourself as a living sacrifice look like in the day to day?

LIVING IT OUT

Romans tells us our spiritual worship is to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, and we do this because God has been merciful to us. Romans 12 describes the behaviour those who have put themselves "on the altar" now have:

We Have To Walk In Humility - we have to recognize we aren't more important than any others in the body of Christ.

Read Romans 12:3

What is the difference between humility and being down on yourself?

We Have To Devote Ourselves To Sincere Love - we can't just say we love others, we have to really love them.

Read Romans 12:9-10

Can you share a gesture of sincere love someone has shown you in your life?

We Have To Enter The Hurt Of Others - we can't love people from afar. We have to come alongside them.

Read Romans 12:13,15

How can you show more compassion toward others - especially others you're not comfortable with?

We Have To Learn To Be PeaceMakers - we have the opportunity to stoke conflict or calm it. Words matter.

Read Romans 12:18

What kinds of things can you say to someone to diffuse a tense situation?

We Are Never To Take Revenge - we can easily confuse justice with revenge. Only God's anger is righteous.

Read Romans 12:19

Why is it always wrong for us to take revenge?

Meet Your Enemy's Needs - Gods love knows no boundaries. God loves our enemies as much as He loves us..

Read Romans 12:20

Have you ever thought about God loving your enemy as much as you? How does it affect your perspective?

