

# Romans

## *Let's Do This.*

### Radical Living

Grace Fellowship Church / Jesús Cantu / 28-Feb-2016

#### **Key ideas in Chapters 1-11:**

- Ch. 1 – Everyone is guilty before God because we choose to ignore his truth – 1:18-20
- Ch. 2 – Even ‘religious’ people are guilty – 2:17-24; 28-29
- Ch. 3 – If anyone is saved, it is only by God’s grace – 3:21-26
- Ch. 4 – Abraham was saved through faith – 4:20-22
- Ch. 5 – We have hope because of our salvation – 5:1; 6-8
- Ch. 6 – Dead to sin, Alive to God – 6:20-23
- Ch. 7 – Grace is more powerful than the Law – 7:4-6; 24-26
- Ch. 8 – We have hope in Christ because of his grace – 8:1-2; 31-37
- Ch. 9 & 10 – Rejection of Jews and acceptance of Gentiles to show God’s mercy – 10:12-13
- Ch. 11 – God’s plan is to save the Gentiles as well as the Jews – 11:11-12

After sharing the amazing truths contained in chapters 1-11, Paul now makes a shift in tone toward application. In light of all of those truths, how should we respond? It is not enough for us, as believers, to simply know these things about God. Our knowledge of God needs to move from our head, to our hearts, to our hands.

#### **Romans 12:1-2**

- 1) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2) Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

#### **1. Request – v.1**

- a. Paul makes an appeal to his readers: *Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*
  - i. Paul is not asking his readers to trust his experience or reputation. He is telling them to trust the mercies of God.
  - ii. We can be living sacrifices because Christ was the ultimate sacrifice.

#### **1. Hebrews 9:11-10:15**

#### **2. Response – v.2a**

- a. How do we go about being a living sacrifice? *Do not conform to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.*
  - i. We do not have to carry the burden of transforming ourselves. We only need to be faithful to renew our mind, and the Spirit will transform our hearts.
  - ii. W.W.J.D.

#### **3. Result – v.2b**

- a. When we live a life of worship, and actively renew our minds, we can discern what the will of God is for our lives.
  - i. God’s will is not hidden! He has clearly revealed Himself to us through His Word.
  - ii. We need to be diligent about obeying the things that God has already revealed to us through His Word before we allow ourselves to wonder about the things that he has not specifically revealed.

1. **Matthew 6:31-33** - Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
2. **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8** - For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God.
3. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** - Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
4. **1 Peter 2:15** - For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.
5. **1 John 3:10** - By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

The Christian life is a life characterized by worship. Believers no longer live for themselves; they live in submission to God's will for their lives.

### **Matthew 16:24-27**

24) Then Jesus told his disciples, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25) For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26) For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? 27) For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

### **4 Lies that Romans 12:1-2 will help us fight**

1. I'm not "good" enough to be able to change.
2. I can't control my \_\_\_\_\_. It JUST happens.
3. If I just keep praying, God will \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I don't want to make the "wrong" choice that is outside of God's will.