

PROMISES WORTH KEEPING

Service...

tips are appreciated



GROWTH GUIDE OCTOBER 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday

Scripture: Romans 12:1-21

AUTHOR

The apostle Paul had been a Pharisee who knew the Bible well, was well educated, hated the Christian faith and persecuted Christians. After his conversion on the road to Damascus, his life was changed and he began to preach the gospel throughout the Roman Empire on three missionary journeys.

CONTEXT

Paul wrote Romans around A.D. 57, from Corinth, as Paul was preparing for his visit to Jerusalem. Paul planned to visit Rome on his way to Spain after bringing a collection to Jerusalem for the poor Christians there. Paul wrote to introduce himself to the Christians in Rome and to present a statement of his faith. Beginning with our scripture passage for today, Paul gives practical guidelines on how to live our faith each day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Romans 12:1-21. In this chapter, we are called to be a living sacrifice, laying aside our own desires to follow God, using our resources for him and trusting him to guide us. Do you find the idea of a living sacrifice challenging?
2. What does verse 2 caution us about?
3. What does it mean to you to be transformed by the renewing of your mind? Are we conforming to the world or being transformed by God?

4. How do you see your identity in Christ?
5. In verses 4 and 5, Paul talks about living and working together. Read I Corinthians 12:12-31 and Ephesians 4:1-16. What can you glean from these passages about this concept?
6. In verses 6-8 there are spiritual gifts listed. What are they and what character or personality traits do you think would be best suited to these?
7. In verse 12, how are you doing the following or how is this challenging you? "Rejoice in hope, be patient in affliction, persevere in prayer."
8. How does Christian hospitality differ from social entertaining?
9. Verses 17-21 give a summary of the core of Christian living. What are we directed to do?
10. How does Paul tell us to treat our enemies?
11. How are you being called to serve?

ENCOURAGEMENT

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

– Romans 12:21.

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