

w/b 5th May 2019

THEME: TRANSFORMATION: LIVING SACRIFICES - LIFE APPLICATION

PASSAGE: ROMANS 12 vs 1-8

LAUNCH

When did someone do something for you recently and how did that improve your opinion of them?

DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

- What are some of the significant ways in which God's grace and mercy has been poured out to us as Christians?
- In what ways has God been merciful to you in particular (or gracious for that matter)
- How do we allow God's grace and mercy to become more deeply rooted in us (as suggested in Tim's preach on Sunday)
- Why do you think Paul uses the image of 'living sacrifice' to describe our proper response to God's mercy? Why is it pleasing to him?
- In what key areas can we deploy our live sacrifice? Is God challenging you to any particular areas?
- JB Phillips famously paraphrased verse 2 as 'don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould'. What are the obvious ways this can happen and what are some of the less obvious ways?
- What are some of the best ways to renew our minds as Christians? How does Christ transform us through these things?
- How does belonging to a wider body help us to not think too highly of ourselves?
- Paul is very keen to link gifts given with grace received. Why do you think this is? How does such knowledge help us in the exercising of our gifts?
- Look at the different gifts listed in verse 6 onwards. How are these distributed within your group and how might it be possible to release them a bit more amongst your various members?

APPLICATION

Spend time praying for one another and the church as a whole that we will know what it means to be willing sacrifices for Christ rather than wilfully self-indulgent for ourselves. (Whilst not neglecting the Sabbath principle of good and appropriate rest.)

A number of questions appear in J Kuhatschek's study on Romans – Lifebuilder series, some are amended slightly