



COMMUNITY  
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

**September 10, 2023**

**Romans 12:9-21**

**Big Idea: So That**

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*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. (Romans 12:1)*

In view of God's mercy...

Renewed -> Given new life (1 Peter 1:3)

Rescued -> Rescued from the wrath of God (1 Thessalonians 1:10)

Reconciled -> No longer separated from God (Colossians 1:21-22)

Redeemed -> Forgiven of our sins (Colossians 1:14)

Justified -> We have peace with God (Romans 5:1)

Firm foundation -> new standing (1 Corinthians 3:11)

New Creation -> Our identity has changed (2 Corinthians 5:17)

**SO THAT** we can be a living sacrifice -> Romans 12:9-21

*Why do we do this all? It is important because these things show the reality of our new nature in Christ. They are all emotions, behaviors, affections that are natural and fitting for the born again.*  
*(John Piper)*

### **My Big 3**

1. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

*Let those who love the LORD hate evil... (Psalm 97:10)*

*“We need to see the infinite beauty of holiness and the infinite damnability of sin.” (Thomas Carlyle)*

Consider this in thinking about ‘Hating evil’: Hell is not an overreaction from God.

- Sin offends God.
- Sin hurts others.

*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (Philippians 4:8)*

2. Keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord

*“There are three things which do not come back—time, the spoken word and the lost opportunity” (William Barclay)*

*Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Colossians 4:5-6)*

3. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

*“Christians must meet persecution with a prayer for those who persecute them. Long ago, Plato had said that the good man will choose to suffer evil rather than to do evil; and it is always evil to hate. When Christians are hurt, and insulted, and badly treated, they have the example of their Master before them, for he, upon his cross, prayed for forgiveness for those who were killing him.” (William Barclay)*

*For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. 20 But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. 21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:19-21)*

Prayer over this list:

1. Love must be sincere
2. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.
3. Be devoted to one another in love.
4. Honor one another above yourselves.
5. Never be lacking in zeal
6. but keep your spiritual fervor
7. serving the Lord
8. Be joyful in hope
9. patient in affliction
10. faithful in prayer
11. Share with the Lord's people who are in need
12. Practice hospitality.
13. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.
14. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.
15. Live in harmony with one another
16. Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.
17. Do not repay anyone evil for evil.
18. live at peace with everyone.
19. Do not take revenge

I hope you can walk into all these things with great faith, hope, and zeal. For this is our true and proper worship.

### **Application:**

1. Preach the Gospel to yourself: In living out this wisdom, one will need to rely on the power of God.

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 Corinthians 12:9)*

2. Preach the Gospel to yourself: In living out this wisdom, one will fail. We need to remember that God forgives.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)*

3. Preach the Gospel to yourself: In living out this wisdom, your flesh & the powers of this world will attack. One must remember that Christ conquered it all.

*And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.  
(Colossians 2:15)*