

The “Walk”: Be a Living Sacrifice - Lesson 28

1. Review:

- In the Eternity to Eternity series, currently, we’re covering the historical timeline from AD 35 - 95 when the Holy Spirit inspired men to write the rest of Jesus’ teachings.
- Acts covers the history of the start and the spread of the **Church** from AD 30 - 62.
- The Apostle Paul wrote the book of Romans to believers in **Rome** in AD 50.
- All Scripture is “**for**” us, but some is directly “**to**” us.
- The book of Romans is “**to**” us in Harvest Columbus today in 2022.
- The book of Romans has the most detailed explanation of the **New Covenant** and the doctrines for the Church of any book in the New Testament.
- Last time, we covered Romans 1-8, which teaches our “standing” (identity) in God’s eyes before trusting in Jesus and then the amazing, eternal change in our “standing” (identity) after we trust in Jesus.
- Paul moves on in chapters 12-16 to explain what believers daily “**walk**” with Him is to look like.

2. The “Walk”: Be a living and holy sacrifice

Romans 12:1-2

- Give (present) your **bodies** to God
 - It’s a moment by moment **choice**.
- Paul gives rationale for giving our bodies and lives to God... “Because of **all He has done** for you.”
 - Wait, what did God do for us? Romans 3-8 already told us that through Christ we are: made right with God, at peace with God, not condemned, adopted children of God, forgiven, and loved unconditionally and eternally.
- Let our bodies be a living and holy sacrifice - give over **the use of** our bodies for as long as we live for **God-honoring** purposes.
- Giving ourselves to do God’s will is true **worship**.
- Don’t **copy** the behavior and customs of this world, but let God **transform** you into a new person by changing the way you **think**.

3. The “Walk” lived out

- In chapters 12-16, Paul lists out what it looks like practically to give our bodies as living and holy sacrifices to God.

Romans 12:3-21

- Don't think you're **better** than you are (12:3-5, 16)
 - Don't be **proud**.
 - “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble”. 1 Peter 5:5
- God gives each believer a “**gift**” or special ability for doing certain things well. (12:6-8)
 - He gave “gifts” to each of us... “so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”

Ephesians 4:16

- Love each other with **genuine** affection. (12:9-10)
 - In John 13:34, Jesus said, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. **Just as I have loved you**, you should love each other.”

4. Application:

- Have you let pride sneak into your life? It is worship of self, not God.
- Do you know what your gift is? Are you actively looking for ways to develop it and serve others with it? Don't compare it with another's gift; this church needs your gift!
- Is your love for others genuine? Do you have “reasons” you don't have to love certain people? Jesus genuinely loves those people.
- How is your daily “walk” with God going? Does it resemble a living and holy sacrifice to God? Which way are you trending... conforming to the world's way of thinking or letting God transform you by adjusting your thinking to match His thinking?