Our Virtual PosserGioup 24/7 LIVING IN AWE OF GOD! Week 4 Study

Icebreaker

How does worshiping alone and worshiping with others affect you? Are they different to you?

Passage 1 Romans 12:1-2

Paul states in this passage that worship is not just music that we sing, but the way in which we live our lives. Sacrifice is synonymous with surrender. When we are baptized in Christ, we die to our old selves, and embrace new life, sacrificing what we selfishly want to gain and achieve in life for God's greater purpose. Daily, we sacrifice our lives in submission to God's will for us. This is true and proper worship!

Reflection What does it mean to present our bodies as living sacrifices? How is this worshiping God?

What does it mean to be conformed to this world? Why should we not be like the world?

Since there is temptation and peer pressure all around us, what is the solution so that we won't be conformed to the world?

How can we renew our minds?

Passage 2 Romans 12:3-8

In these verse Paul is saying to his Roman Christian readers that their actions are not measuring up with their knowledge. They need to apply their minds to evaluating themselves and their gifts. It seems apparent that the Christians in Rome were having a few problems, not only from outside the church but also inside the church.

Reflection Where do our gifts come from?

Discuss each gift here and how they are to be used.

What problems could these gifts have been causing inside the church?

Passage 3 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

It seems as if the church in Rome is not the only one who had issues over the use of gifts in public worship. Paul also includes a section within his letter to the church of Corinth addressing the issues of using gifts inside the church. It is clear in the New Testament that one of the things God desires for His church is unity. Paul begins making the case that gifts should not be used to tear us apart, but to bring us together!

Reflection Who is a member of the body and is every member equal?

What does it mean that we are the body and not the head?

Why are the weaker members necessary and what does the mean for the stronger members?

What does this look like in a real church environment and why has God designed the church like this?

Passage 4 Romans 12:9-21

Paul then switches to include those outside the church as well as inside the church. This is a very broad passage covering MANY qualities that Christians are to have. The relationship of the Christian to other believers must be characterized by love. There are many spiritual gifts; but the most important principle is that they function in love—not in rivalry, or envy, or divisiveness. Love. After all, "the fruit of the Spirit is love

Reflection Is Paul calling those inside the church to love only their friends?

How does this passage relate to the fruits of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23?

Which one of these characteristics do you struggle with the most?

Application

Paul summarizes his thoughts in stating that the greatest ways in which we show worship to God is how we love one another inside as well as outside the church.

Who is God calling you to love right now even though it may be difficult? What commitment can you make in order to extend grace to the particular person you are thinking about?