

Its Not About our Greatness

During December we focused on providence. God is working in our world, church, and life. During January we want to identify the proper spirit or attitude required for our congregation to be a place of healing. As God works, it is not about us. We are not in the spotlight ... He is. Because God has saved us, **what should be our response?** Romans 12.1-8 gives us the answer.

I. Romans 12.1-2 - God Wants Your Life.

- A. Romans 12.1 - God wants you to dedicate every aspect of your being to Him.
 - 1. 12.1b - **present** (sacrifice) *your body*...
 - 2. 12.1c - your sacrifice is to be:
 - a) *living* - God doesn't want any more dead sacrifices.
 - b) **holy** - Set apart; completely dedicated.
 - c) *pleasing to God* - complete surrender allows God to do the work on us changing us back into what He originally intended.
 - 3. 12.1d - this is **true worship**. It happens every day of our life ... not just on Sunday.
- B. Romans 12.2: What the sacrifice of your life involves
 - 1. 12.2a - *do not be conformed to this age*... Don't allow the world to put its stamp on you.
 - 2. 12.2b - allow God to **transform** you *by the renewing of your mind*. He does the work of transformation inside of you. We simply desire it and yield to it.
 - 3. 12.2c - you **discern** or *prove* what the will of God is. The complete offering of your life to God puts His will on display.

II. Romans 12.3 - God Wants the Right Attitude.

- A. Romans 12.3 - *I tell everyone among you not to **think** of himself more highly than he should think.*
- B. Romans 12.3b - The right attitude begins with **sensible thinking**
 - 1. *This involves **the direction of our thinking.***
- C. Remember the Divine Perspective
 - 1. Romans 6.16, 18, 22 - we are **slaves** to God.
 - 2. Galatians 5.13 - we are slaves to one another.
 - 3. Philippians 2.3-4 - Place yourself under others rather than over them.
- D. We are not to overvalue our abilities, gifts, or worth
 - 1. Galatians 6.3 - *For if anyone considers himself to be something when he is nothing, he **deceives** himself.*
 - 2. 1 Timothy 1.12-16 - what will an honest assessment yield?
 - 3. 1 Corinthians 4.6-7 - regarding self-examination & the judgment of others
 - 4. 1 Peter 5:5 - *All of you clothe yourselves with **humility** toward one another...*

III. As We Close...

- A. Begin with the dedication of self
- B. Humble yourself. It's not about your greatness.
- C. Think sensibly.
- D. Do you need Jesus? How can we serve you today?