



Connect Discussion Guide

03.27.22 Message | Chuck Sackett | Romans 12:1-8

Key Scriptures:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

- Romans 1:18

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

- Romans 12:1-8

Message Highlights:

- We are One Community defined by Missional Service.
- Romans unfolds the mercy of God for his people through 11 chapters.
- Service expresses our character as a missional community of Christ.
- To be a community means personal sacrifice.

Conversation Starter:

When was the last time you spent part of your free time serving someone else or our community? What was the most enjoyable or lifegiving part of that experience?

Discuss the Message:

1. How would the fruits of your life look differently if, each day, you offered your body as a “living sacrifice” to God? See Romans 12:1-2 to help you with your answer.
 - a) If personal sacrifice defines us as a Christian community, would that be evident to an outsider looking in on our community?
 - b) When has somebody else’s personal sacrifice impacted your relationship with God?

2. What does a community that is marked by “unified diversity” look like?
 - a) How does Romans 12:4-5 help inform your answer?
 - b) Take a personal audit of your community; what is your community united by?
 - c) How is God’s character reflected among the communities you are a part of?
3. What is meant by using our gifts “in proportion to our faith” (Romans 12:6b)?
 - a) Identify one or two spiritual gifts God has blessed you with out of his abundant grace.
 - b) How might it be harmful to offer our service flippantly or without proper measure on our part?
 - c) Can you think of a time when you either misused your spiritual gift or failed to use it at all in a situation where it was needed?
4. Identify a specific way you can serve someone in your community this week, using your spiritual gifting to the fullest. Share with your group.

Pray:

Father, thank you for the example of your Son, Jesus, who lived with an unshakable commitment to your mission to seek and save the lost in this world. We want to serve others just as he did. Thank you for the many different ways you have gifted each of us to serve. We pray that, by your Spirit, we might be united in our mission to love and serve others. May we spur one another on through our example, and may we find deep joy as your Holy Spirit works in and through our missional service. Amen.