

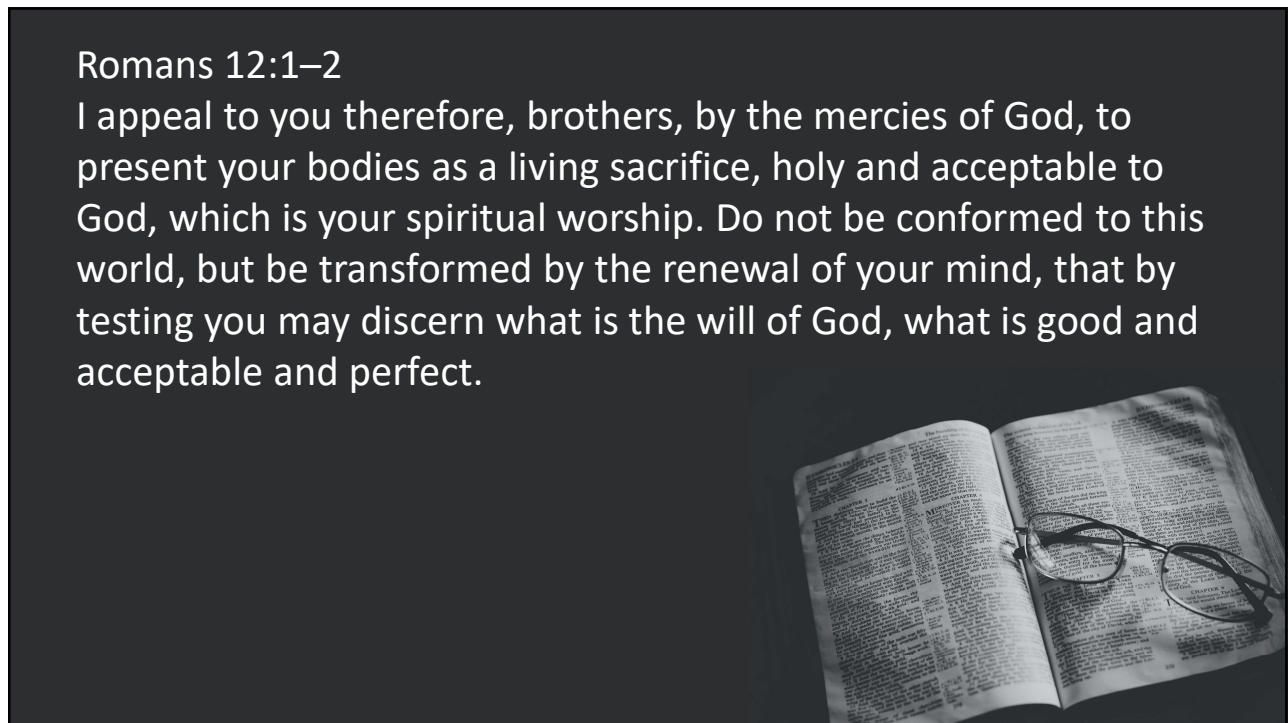
**“If You Aim For Nothing,  
You Will Hit It Every Time.”**



21

**Romans 12:1–2**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



22

## PASSIONATE PLEA

- Strong urging with a strong reason
  - Paul's desires
    - Doctrinal integrity
    - Gospel advancement
    - Understanding human depravity
  - Unity of the church
    - Paul's goal for letter to Rome

Romans 15:23–24

But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while.



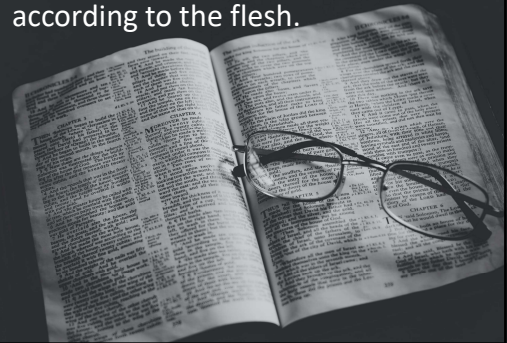
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## PASSIONATE PLEA

- Strong urging with a strong reason
  - Paul's desires
    - Doctrinal integrity
    - Gospel advancement
    - Understanding human depravity
  - Unity of the church
    - Paul's goal for letter to Rome
    - Paul's desire for salvation

Romans 9:1–3

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.



24

## PASSIONATE PLEA

- Strong urging with a strong reason
- God's mercies

Lamentations 3:22–25

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.



25

## PASSIONATE PLEA

- Strong urging with a strong reason
- God's mercies
  - Despite rejection by mankind, God still demonstrates mercy
  - God's mercy provides salvation
    - An opportunity for eternal life
    - Knowing God's will
    - Forgiveness of sin

Romans 1:16–17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."



26

**Romans 3:21–26**

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.



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**PASSIONATE PLEA**

- Strong urging with a strong reason
- God's mercies
- Unignored foundation
  - Sound doctrine drives decisions
  - Sound doctrine anchors
  - Sound doctrine provokes reflection



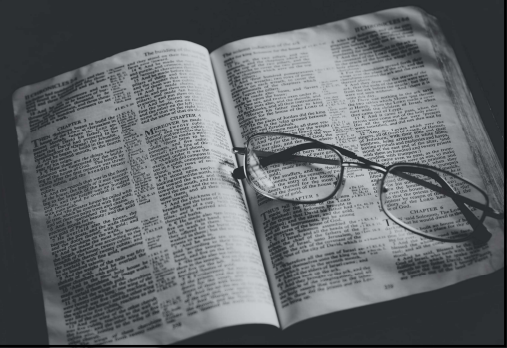
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## PERSONAL PRESENT

- Your body
  - Physical, mental, spiritual
  - Reflection of being a disciple of Christ

John 13:34–35

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”



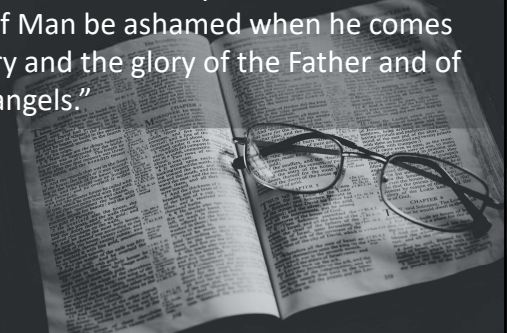
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## PERSONAL PRESENT

- Your body
  - Physical, mental, spiritual
  - Reflection of being a disciple of Christ
  - Daily sacrifice

Luke 9:23–26

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”

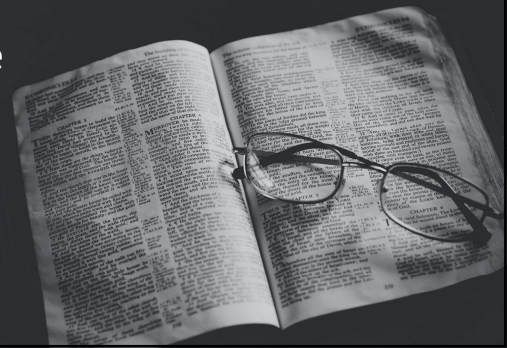


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## PERSONAL PRESENT

- Your body
- A sacrifice offered for sin
  - Old Testament sacrifice for atonement of sin
    - Death of an animal
    - Strictly commanded by God
  - Gospel – Christ is our atonement
  - New Covenant – Christ died, we live



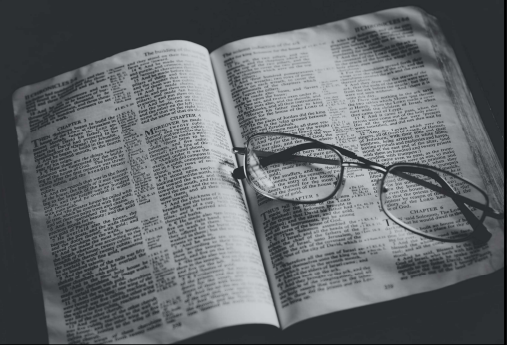
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## PERSONAL PRESENT

- Your body
- A sacrifice offered for sin
- Holy and acceptable
  - Old Testament sacrifice for atonement of sin
    - Death of an animal
    - Strictly commanded by God
  - Gospel – Christ is our atonement
  - New Covenant – Christ died, we live

2 Corinthians 5:20–21

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



32

## PERSONAL PRESENT

- Your body
- A sacrifice offered for sin
- Holy and acceptable
- Spiritual worship
  - 24/7
  - God's presence in us
  - Knowing the holiness of God
  - Brings recognition of sin
  - Produces conviction to repentance
  - Celebration of forgiveness
  - Declaration through living



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## PERFECT PURPOSE

- The challenge
  - Not conformed to the world
    - Reflection
    - Thoughts
    - Actions
    - Pursuits



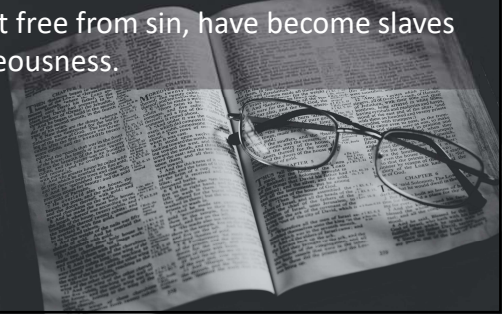
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## PERFECT PURPOSE

- The challenge
  - Not conformed to the world
  - Created to glorify God but sin changed passion from God to self
  - Your actions reflect your passion

Romans 6:16–18

Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.



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## PERFECT PURPOSE

- The challenge
- But being transformed
  - Renewal – ongoing, continual
  - Reflection and application of the Word of God

Hebrews 4:11–13

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

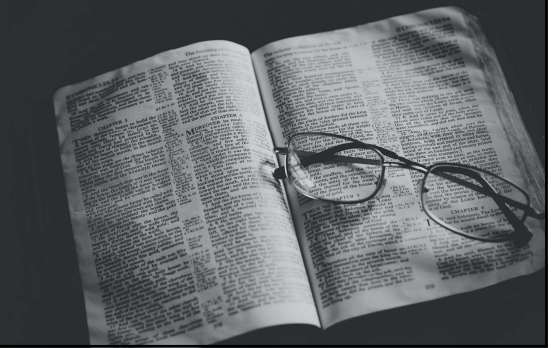


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## PERFECT PURPOSE

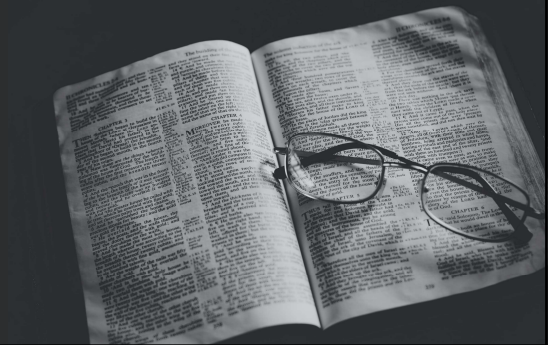
- The challenge
- But being transformed
  - Renewal – ongoing, continual
  - Reflection and application of the Word of God
  - Sanctification continues
- Looking less the world and more like Christ



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## PERFECT PURPOSE

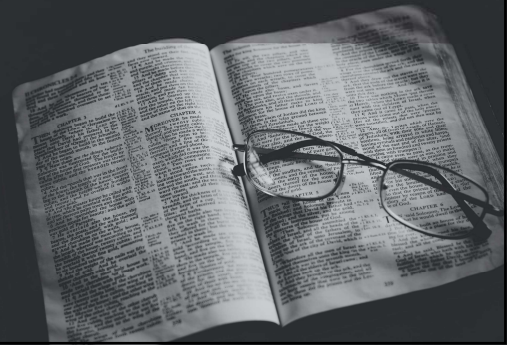
- The challenge
- But being transformed
- Knowing God's will
  - Testing –
    - Does it conflict with God's character
    - Does it line up with Scripture
    - Let God be God



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## Romans 8:26–30

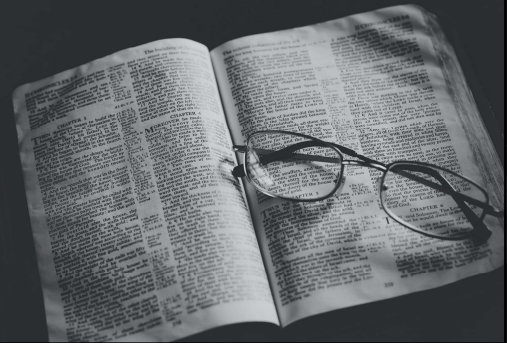
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.



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**PERFECT PURPOSE**

- The challenge
- But being transformed
- Knowing God's will
- Rest in hope
  - Testing produces character
  - God's will is good
  - God's will is acceptable
  - God's will is perfect



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**LIVE LIFE FOR GOD...  
BEGINS WITH JESUS NOW  
CONTINUES WITH JESUS DAILY**

