

When In Romans

Come as you are, but
don't leave as you came

Pastor Jake Watkins



Romans 12:1 NLT

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

God's MERCY demands a response

My response should be SACRIFICE

Romans 12:2 NLT

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. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

The Christian life is not about MODIFICATION, it's about TRANSFORMATION

Because of Jesus, change is POSSIBLE

2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT

So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

Real CHANGE comes from real relationship

Romans 12:3-5,9-10,13-16 NLT

Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other... Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.... When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

A life lived for JESUS, is a life laid down for OTHERS

Romans 13:8-10 NLT

Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law. For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet." These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

My NEIGHBOR, my PROBLEM

Romans 14:7-8,10,13 NLT

For we don't live for ourselves or die for ourselves. If we live, it's to

honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord... So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer? Remember, we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall.

Romans 15:5-7 NLT

May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

Love REFRAINS from condemnation

Love REMAINS others focused

Romans 15:13 NLT

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

God doesn't just want my Sunday, He wants my LIFE

Discussion Questions

1. Read Romans 12:1-2. What do you think it means to "give your bodies to God" as a living sacrifice? What does this actually look like in your daily life?
2. Do you believe the way you think influences how you live? What does it look like to "let God transform you by changing the way you think"? Have you ever experienced God reshaping your perspective on something important?
3. Paul calls us to authentically love others, not just pretend (Romans 12:9-21 and Romans 13:8-10). Which verses challenge you the most? How is loving others a practical way to live out your faith?
4. Romans 14 and 15 are all about unity and building each other up. What does it mean to live in harmony with one another? How can you pursue unity even when you disagree with someone? How can we

honor God in our personal choices while still showing grace to those who believe or behave differently?

5. Paul includes a blessing in Romans 15:13 about joy, peace, and hope. What area of your life needs more of that right now? How can you open your heart to God in that space?

REMEMBER:

The gospel is the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ... That he died on the cross for our sins and rose again on the 3rd day to defeat sin and death!

Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something -
GO BE THE CHURCH!

[*Click here to claim your free RightNow Media account - a gift to you from Pipeline.Church!*](#)