

“TRANSFORMATION: Transformers—Rise of the Fallen”

Romans 12:1-8 February 21, 2017

*****Please register your ATTENDANCE**

Sign up for REFRESHMENTS. Thank you!

Prayer Requests & Opening Prayer

For Discussion: As a teenager, how did peer pressure affect the way you dressed, acted, or spoke? Did you lean more toward what your parents taught you to do or what your friends told you to do? Can you recall any specific examples?

- Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1. How did family, teachers, preachers, and Sunday School teachers affect your behavior? Were there books, magazines, movies, television shows, commercials, or advertisements that influenced how you acted?

2. How do you most often decide what God’s will is for your life? What do these verses tell us to do in order to determine God’s will?

3. What does it mean to be “living sacrifices”?

4. In what specific ways do you still tend to conform “to the pattern of this world”?

5. In what specific ways do you allow yourself to be “transformed by the renewing of your mind”?

6. At this stage in your life, do you believe God is able to change you for the better in significant ways? If so, what would those changes be?

- ³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

7. Are you inclined to “think of yourself more highly than you ought,” or are you more likely to put yourself down?

8. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being high, how would you rank yourself in the gifts listed in verses 6-8: prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy?

- What other gifts would you add to this list?

9. What holds you back from using your gifts more fully? Talk about a time when you best made use of a gift God has given you.

10. Considering this entire passage, how does God help us determine God’s will?

Closing Prayer

Transforming God, lead us into a clear understanding of your plan for our lives. Help us determine your divine direction for us by your Holy Spirit working in our hearts and minds. Teach us to discern the unique gifts through which you bless us to bless others. Then, walk with us as we use your gifts to bring transformation to the world. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.