

## A Living Sacrifice – Romans 12:1-2

### Discussion Questions

- 1) Romans 12:1-2 are key verses in the book of Romans. They begin Paul's transition from chapters 1-11 to chapters 12-16. In Romans 1-11, Paul outlines the gospel, and what Jesus has done for us. In Romans 12-16, he states how we as Christians should respond to Jesus' sacrificial gift of grace. These opening verses might be summarised by saying that we are to offer to God ourselves as a 'living sacrifice'. What do you think Paul means by this?
- 2) If necessary, do a little research on what cultural or nominal Christianity is. How do these verses show that true Christianity is so different to cultural Christianity?
- 3) Read 1 Corinthians 9:25-27. How do you think these verses relate to offering to God ourselves as a living sacrifice? What does it mean to practice self-discipline and why might this be so important in the Christian life?
- 4) Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. How does the realisation that the Holy Spirit lives within us affect how we live with our bodies?
- 5) What might it practically look like to flee from sexual immorality?
- 6) If we are not to conform to the pattern of this world, we need to know what the pattern of this world is. In 2015, a survey was carried out which asked 1,000 millennials in Germany what their most important values in life were. Here are the results: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/971719/millennials-survey-most-important-values-life-germany/>. What can we learn about the pattern of the world from reading this? How are Christians to think and act differently from this?
- 7) In Romans 12:2, Paul says that we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. The Greek word for transformed is *metamorphoo*. Paul is describing real change, similar to what Jesus describes in John 3:3 about being 'born again' and what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:17 about a Christian being a new creation. How does this mind *metamorphoo* practically take place? What steps might we need to take to partner with the Holy Spirit in allowing this to happen?