

Dear Church,

Community Group Discussion Guide Worship Defined Romans 12:1-2



1. Christians talk a lot about worship, but don't always take the time to define it. What sorts of things belong in a definition of "worship"? Work as a group to identify a number of things.
2. One author says we worship anything that gets "our heart's deepest desires." How does connecting "worship" with "desire" change the way you think about worship?
3. Read Romans 12:1-2, then answer the following questions.
 - Paul starts this passage off with "Therefore...in view of God's mercy..." Based on what was mentioned in the sermon or what you already know from Romans 1-11, what specific examples of God's mercy might Paul have in mind here? (Need some help? Consider our need for mercy in Romans 1:21-23 and 3:23, or God's offer of mercy in Romans 5:1 and 8:1.)
 - How does a big view of God's mercy lead us to "offer our bodies as a living sacrifice," as Romans 12:1 mentions?
4. Offering our bodies as a living sacrifice isn't something we do only once a week - during music on Sunday mornings. How can you make offering your body as this sort of sacrifice a daily habit? How does this change how you view worship?
5. Even though worship is MORE than what we do on Sunday mornings during music, that time can be an important way we worship. How can you make the most of your time worshipping on Sunday morning? Brainstorm a number of practical ideas.
6. Romans 12:2 also mentions the importance of being transformed by the renewing of your mind. Why is this sort of renewal important? How does this "renewing of your mind" happen?
7. Review what you've learned from Romans 12:1-2. What is one practical take-away from this passage you can apply to your life this week? How will you apply it?
8. **Challenge:** Memorize Romans 12:1-2: **1** 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. **2** Do not conform to the patters 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.



MON 24	TUES 25	WED 26	THURS 27	FRI 28	SAT 29	SUN 30
Romans 12	Romans 13-14	Romans 15-16	Col 1-2	Col 3-4	Eph 1-2	Eph 3-4