



CARE GROUP BIBLE STUDY

LIFE TOGETHER

ROMANS 12

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LIFE TOGETHER – Romans 12 is designed and written for the Kingston Community Church family and its associated care group ministry.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Developed by

KINGSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

TO LOVE AND HONOUR **GOD** IN BEING

DISCIPLES

and helping make disciples of our

LORD JESUS CHRIST MATTHEW 28:18-20

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17 AUGUST

ROMANS 12:1-8

SERMON NOTES

SMALL GROUP STUDY

In this passage, Paul explores how in view of God's mercy, we respond with worship through a transformed life. We see worship defined.

Paul begins with sacrifice. A sacrifice is the offering of an animal in the temple—it's a life paid for human sin. Such a sacrifice is costly—but second-hand and dead. Now, says Paul, make sacrifice direct, personal—and living. Offer yourselves to God. This is true worship. And don't be molded by the pressures of the world, but allow yourself to be transformed by the mind of Christ.

Next Paul deals with community life. There is no place for pride. Christian living is humble giving. We belong to one another like different parts of the same body. We each contribute our gifts—speaking God's word, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, caring. These are God's gifts to us for one another. Instead of pride there is faith, humility, encouragement, generosity, hard work and good humour.

Open in prayer

Opening question

When you hear the word worship, what is the first thing that comes to mind?

Read scripture

Romans 12:1-8

Provide opportunity to share

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

Use the following questions to guide your discussions

- How do you understand God's mercy? Romans 12:1
Cf: Romans 11:30-32
- How does Romans 12:1 shape the nature of true worship?
- In what areas of life do you feel pressure to conform to the standards of the world? Romans 12:2
- What role do we play in our own spiritual transformation?
Romans 12:2
- How does our view of ourselves impact the wider church family? Romans 12:3-5

- What is the relationship between individual giftness and the attitude of the person outworking that gift? Romans 12:6-8
- How does it mean for you to be a sacrifice to God?
- How does this passage relate to how you are using your own personal spiritual gift within church family?

Prayer

24 AUGUST

ROMANS 12:9-21

SERMON NOTES

SMALL GROUP STUDY

Following on from the previous passage, Paul builds on the call to be a living sacrifice as part of a humble community. He now explores how, in view of God's mercy, we respond with worship through authentic love. We see worship outworked.

In this passage Paul deals with the importance of love in our daily relationships. This section of Romans consists of many short commands (there are about 25 different commands in these thirteen verses!). As always, it is a guide to loving relationships. But now love is not measured and mechanical, but genuine, joyful and from the heart. Christian love is not something we should just talk about it is something we should do. Christian love must be active. Love for one another is evidence of our relationship with God, and the evidence we are disciples (followers) of Jesus.

Open in prayer

Opening question

In an ideal church, what three attitudes would you expect to find in people?

Read scripture

Romans 12:9-21

Provide opportunity to share

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

Use the following questions to guide your discussions

- What attitudes and actions is Paul encouraging here?
Romans 12:9-21

- Of the commands listed in Romans 12:9-21, which two are easiest for you to keep?
- Of the commands listed in Romans 12:9-21, which two are most difficult for you to keep?
- What is the relationship between our heart attitude and the expressions of love that are emphasised in this passage?
- How should we relate to the not-yet follower of Jesus if they act in an evil way towards us? Romans 12:17-21
- Where have you seen expressions of love in our Christian community @ KCC?
- How might we increasingly grow a culture of authentic love across our church family?

Prayer

