



Romans: By the Mercies

Romans 12:1-2

Ray Cortese, September 8 & 9, 2018

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Have you ever been the recipient of a remarkable kindness? How did you respond?
- 2 What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

BY THE MERCIES: CONSECRATION

- 3 How do Paul's words in Romans 12 find their meaning in the context of Old Testament temple worship?
- 4 *Renounce ownership.* Our culture says, "Everything you have belongs to you." How have you been influenced by that lie? According to the Bible do you truly own anything?

- 5 *Redirect purpose.* What is the purpose of life according to our culture? What is the purpose of life according to Christianity? Is “living sacrifice” an oxymoron? When was the last time you committed all of your life to Jesus?

BY THE MERCIES: TRANSFORMATION

- 6 “Do not be conformed to this world...” How would you describe the mold of this world, into which you must resist being pressed?
- 7 What is wrong with the phrase, “Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything”? Explain in your own words what Ray meant when he said, “Everyone is a missionary for something”.
- 8 What is your family’s strategy for implementing Romans 12:2?

BY THE MERCIES: MOTIVATION

- 9 What is wrong with relying on fear as the primary motivation for living the Christian life?
- 10 Describe in your own words what it looks like instead to be motivated by gratitude and grace?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?