

The Walk: Romans 12:1

Key Scriptures

Romans 12:1 Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice- alive, holy and pleasing to God- which is your reasonable service.

Lk. 9:23-24 ²³ Then he said to them all, "If anyone wants to become my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

1 Cor. 6:19-20 ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God with your body.

1 Pet. 1:18-19 ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Phil. 2:13 ^{NLT} For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Key Point: Surrender is the path to blessing.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever had a pet that you were unsuccessful in training or didn't obey you? What did you do?

Start thinking. Select questions to get your group thinking.

- One of the key principles Jesus taught, was that they way to real life is through death. In what ways is this truth unpacked in the following passages? (Luke 9:23-24, Gal 2:20, 5:24, Col 3:1-5, 2 Tim 2:11).
- Romans 12:1, Is often translated this way; "present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service." This emphasizes the idea of being a "living sacrifice." How does it change your understanding when you realize that your sacrifice is meant to be three things: alive, holy, and pleasing to God?
- What reasons do 1 Cor 6:19-20, and 1 Peter 1:18-19 give us that we should surrender ourselves fully to God?
- What is Philippians 2:13 telling us?

Start sharing. Choose questions to create openness.

- Some of you are young, and some old. Some have healthy bodies, while others are dealing with illness or at least aging bodies. Why do you think God wants our bodies as a sacrifice?
- Why do many Christians miss out on God's best for their lives?
- Can you share about a time when you struggled with wanting to give yourself wholly to God? Does Philippians 2:13 give you encouragement? How?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- Memorize Philippians 2:13 this week, and thank God that He is not only working in you, giving you the ability to do what pleases Him, but will also be working on your desire to obey as well.

Prayer Requests. It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

-
-
-