

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

“Studies in the Book of Romans - 16

Date: January 17, 2010

Text: Rom. 12:1-21

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TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

PRACTICING THE GOSPEL- Part 1

INTRODUCTION Paul is finished instructing us in the understanding of theology that surrounds the gospel. Now Paul moves to give us practical instructions in living out the faith life before God and others around us. These instruction begin with a dedication and consecration of ourselves to be God’s instrument to carry out His will by displaying the changed life given through it. Let’s look at this chapter and see. . .

I. Our Decision of Self-Sacrifice – (12:1-2)

- A) Consecration - *“To display unbridled sacrifice”*
- B) Change - *“Morally, mentally and motivationally ”*

II. Our Dedication For Service– (12:3-8)

- A) God’s Grace – *“Always render humility toward others”*
- B) God’s Gifts – *“An Illustration and identification of them”*

III. Our Demonstration of Self-Denial – (12:9-21)

- A) Toward Our Friends – *“Be devoted toward one another”*
- B) Toward Our Foes – *“Always return good for evil”*

CONCLUSION: Without a doubt, what happens to everyone who is “born-again,” is marvelous and breath-taking. The new life in Christ that comes to life in everyone who is truly saved, begins with a dedication of itself to live for and love what loves, and to carry out what God wants in and through us. As we are in a new year, it would be good for all of us to take an inventory of ourselves and measure ourselves by these guidelines given here. How do you measure up? Is the new life in you alive and well? Would you be willing today, right now this morning in worship, to re-consecrate your life to Christ? May God give us all the will to do that to show our Savior how much we love Him and are thankful for His love toward us.

Rom 12:1-21 (NIV) "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern 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.

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."