

Getting Along Inside Our Walls

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2

•	Relate to one another, bonding foundationally by the grace of God. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think v. 3a
	Think of your need for grace so you will treat others but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. v. 3b
I.	Cooperate to contribute uniquely to one another's needs. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them vv. 4-6a
	Offer what you can. even if you can only offer your Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. v. 13
II.	Love to connect with one another in unhypocritical ways. Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. vv. 9-10a
	Build one another up constantly so we can all live for the Lord Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. vv. 10b-12
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Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Romans 12:3-13. Paul says our love must be genuine (without hypocrisy). What does he mean? How genuine would you say your love is toward others in the body of Christ?

"Fellowship with the body of Christ is God's great classroom of the development of Christian character. We are benefitted by both the strengths and weaknesses of the fellowship. The mature ones help to strengthen and encourage us, while the weaknesses in the less mature give us the opportunity to practice our spiritual growth. Get involved and stay in faithful fellowship with the body of Christ! Don't run off if something disappoints you or you get your feelings hurt—this only demonstrates immaturity and places you in further danger of losing out with God. If you alienate yourself from fellowship, you will be regressing down a path that leads away from God." D. A. ROBBINS

"When Jesus was asked about the greatest commandment in the Law, His answer was quick and clear. Love God with every part of your being and the second is like it, love your neighbor as yourself (Matt 22:36-39). Love is never optional. But remember, love requires discipline of the soul. It is not natural. Selfishness is natural to us. Love appears regularly for us only when we make it a habit. With fellowship, we find something that is occurring at a surface level constantly for the church. But I want to invite you to push further into fellowship as a community-born discipline that aids in propelling the mission of God." PHILIP NATION

- 2. In what ways is Christian love more than just an emotion? See Romans 5:6-8: 12:7-8: 10-21: 13:8-10; and 1 John 3:17-18.
- 3. Love flows from God through the Holy Spirit, but in what ways is loving others also a discipline we must practice?
- 4. What does Paul mean when he tells us to "outdo one another in showing honor" (v. 10)? For more insight see also Phil 2:2-4.
- 5. A renewed mind is a humble mind, like Christ's (Phil 2:5-11). Our renewed mind must also be active in evaluating ourselves, our identity and our gifts What information in verses 3-8 would help you to accurately evaluate yourself?
- 6. In verse 12 Paul mentions the renewed mind's approach to affliction. What does he recommend? How can you practice this better?

If you are currently feeling afflicted, meditate on v. 12 and on your hope (see 8:18-39). Talk to God about your feelings. Practicing some of the other instructions in vv. 9-21 can often relieve the pain of affliction and encourage joyful hope.

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THESE?

☐ BE pulpit series Self-Evaluation Scan the QR code for a tool to evaluate your growth in

becoming a disciple



☐ Spiritual Gifts Assessment

www.ccbcfamily.org/gifts

Visit our website to assess your own spiritual gifts and learn where to serve

☐ Shape Summary

Scan the QR code to assist our staff in providing you more ways to serve



A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

- 1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
- 2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23: Hebrews 9:27)
- 3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9) "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
- "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT **CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more

FOSTER.ADOPT. MINISTRY We are committed to making a difference in the lives of children in the foster and adoption community! Our Local Outreach ministry has various ways you can get involved, including supporting families involved in fostering and adoption, becoming a CASA advocate or pursuing foster and adoption. If you believe God has gifted you to serve and pursue this ministry, let us know by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/fosteradopt.

LOCAL OUTREACH: MOVIE MATINEE What happened in a small, rural Texas town with one church community and 77 foster care children inspires and encourages churches nationwide with their movie, The Sound of Hope. Our Local Outreach ministry is excited to announce they will be hosting a special viewing of this movie next Saturday, November 16! Register to attend by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/matinee.

MORE THAN A SHOEBOX Operation Christmas Child is a ministry that sends Christmas gifts and the gospel message to children in need around the world every year - and you can help by filling a shoebox this holiday season with necessities and toys! When you leave the service today, make sure to grab a shoebox or two. We'll be collecting from now to Sunday, Nov. 24. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/occ.

HOW ARE YOU STARTING TO CELEBRATE?

The holiday season is here and Christ Chapel Women's Ministry is launching their celebration with a Christmas Brunch! Available to women of all ages, they would love to extend an invite for you and friends to join in. Learn more about the celebration by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/ brunch or the CCBC app.

HOW HAS GOD SHAPED YOU FOR SERVICE?

Many of you already serve generously with your time and talents, which allows our church family to BE, MAKE and REACH in various ways. Others may be looking for great ways to serve. For the next few weeks we're asking our church family to reflect on how God has gifted you to serve, and to share your opinions on how our church can grow in this area. Please fill out our Shape Summary at www.ccbcfamily.org/shape or by using the CCBC app by Nov. 15.

GRIEFSHARE: SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

When you're grieving a loved one, it's not unusual to wish you could skip over the whole holiday season. There's a lot to navigate and we want to help. By joining in on Surviving the Holidays you'll gain practical wisdom and advice as we talk about what to do with favorite traditions and memories, how to handle various emotions and where to find real hope in this season. Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/sth to sign up.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE

The process is quick and easy-scan the QR Code to start.