

Sunday, December 4, 2022 - "Romans - Week 12 - To Pierce or Not to Pierce: Romans 12" - Bryce Gray

Key Passages: Romans 12, Ephesians 2:8-10, Hebrews 11:17-19, Matthew 13:44-46, Luke 9:23-24, Exodus 21:2,5-6

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Romans 12 Key ideas
  - Responding when others hurt us
  - Stewarding our gifts and God's purposes for us
  - Full surrender to God
- To-do list in Romans 12
  - A lot of do's and don'ts
  - "Outdo one another in showing honor" v.10 (stood out to Bryce)
  - Do not "be wise in your own sight" v.16 (stood out to Bryce)
- What is the risk when we don't obey? (the do's and don'ts in Romans 12)
  - Forgiveness is more for us than the person who has wronged us
  - Not forgiving is a little arrogant
    - The Lord's Prayer...forgive as God has forgiven us
    - When we understand what God has forgiven us for...we can extend forgiveness to others
  - When we don't forgive it doesn't reflect faith and trust in God
    - Trust God to "even the score"
    - Is it time to let go of something?
    - Saying to God "I believe you exist and I trust you to deal with it."
- Stewarding our gifts (Romans 12:4-8)
  - We have been given gifts that are meant to be used
  - "God's kingdom is impoverished when we don't bring our gifts to the table" - Bryce Gray
  - Ephesians 2:8-10
- Romans 12:1 - Chapters 1 -11 explain the mysterious/miraculous plan on God and our response = our bodies as a living sacrifice to God
- What does it mean to do this?
  - Sign at the bottom of a blank contract and allow God to fill in the details/requirements
  - Like signing up for military service...at the request of your commanding officer
  - Abraham offering up Isaac (Hebrews 11:17-19...believing that he could raise him from the dead)
- Why would we even do that?
  - Matthew 13:44-46 - If we get the gospel, who better to trust than our heavenly father
  - Luke 9:23-24
- Paul, a BONDSERVANT of Jesus (Romans 1:1)
  - Exodus 21:2, 5-6
  - True and proper worship..."for the rest of my life, you, God, are my master"

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What has God taught you about forgiveness?
2. There are a lot of do's and don'ts in Romans 12? What stands out to you and why?
3. What is God calling you to let go of?
4. What have you learned about stewarding the gifts that God has given you?
5. How do you personally offer your life as a living sacrifice to God?
6. What does it look like for you to be a bondservant of Jesus (Romans 1:1)?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this message or passage?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan\*\***

**Mon: Ephesians 3 Tues: Ephesians 4 Wed: Ephesians 5 Thurs: Ephesians 6 Fri: Mark 1**

**Songs from the weekend: [Joy - Hillsong Worship] - [O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be) - Passion] - [Hark - Hillsong Worship] - [Only Jesus - Bethel Music]**