



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Roamin' In Romans Romans Chapter 12

Romans 12 - Keep Pressing, Don't Pull Back

Message preached on Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Don't Stop...Finish The Course

I have recognized, as we have gone through Romans 12, a drawing back to verses 1 and 2.

Romans 12:1-2

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
- 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

It seems that every service we go back over these verses...they are important.

- * Lay down your flesh as a sacrifice.
Do not yield to what your flesh wants.
- * Renew your mind.
Do not yield to what your carnal mind (Romans 8) desires.

It isn't a secret...it is the foundation of operating as men and women of God. Lay down your flesh and renew your mind.

What the LORD impressed upon me is that there is NOT an age limit to this. There is not a time limit (I've been a Christian for 40 years).

We must consistently lay down our flesh and renew our mind...every day, every year, every age, every decade.

GOING BACK to a couple Sundays ago and being an example...the question that I want to ask everyone here is: If a young Christian simply decides to watch you and copy what you do...right now...in all of your Christian walk...would they grow closer to God or further away.

LISTEN TO ME: If they did what you did, while in service, would they grow closer? If they attended HOW you attended, would they grow closer? If they watch what you watch...spent the time you spend...would they grow closer? If they walk by faith, the way you do...

HERE IS MY POINT: Often as we grow in the Lord...quote unquote MATURE...do we continue with the same attention to detail as we did when we were younger in the Lord?

What I have found is that many believers...get sloppier the more they advance in Christ.

WHY? Because they are confident (over-confident) in their walk with God.

They know what the Bible says...they won't stop serving God...they are confident...it is okay if they do this or do that, they won't fall away.

They allow things in that shouldn't be in...they do things that they shouldn't do...

The Lord is telling us...no matter where you are in your walk with God...lay down your flesh and renew your mind...don't quit! Keep doing it!

The book, "**The Lord's Generals**" – why some fail. In almost every situation...it was because they quit pressing and stopped laying down their flesh and renewing their mind.

ILLUSTRATION: Pastors can learn to write sermons...and do it easily. Where early in their ministry they would spend hours of time praying and researching and studying...because they were young.

HOWEVER: As they got older...they knew so much...they didn't have to put in as much effort.

Philippians 3:12-14

- 12 **Not as though I had already attained**, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- 13 Brethren, **I count not myself to have apprehended**: but **this one thing I do**, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 10:38-39

- 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but **if any man draw back**, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.
- 39 But **we are not of them who draw back unto perdition**; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

ILLUSTRATION: Obviously, sports! Michael Jordan...most consider him the GOAT. The best ever to do it... but he went through three sections of his career.

80's – He was young and hungry. He trained hard and played hard. He wanted to win.

90's – He won 6 championships. Finally got over the hill. Did he quit working hard? No, he had to work harder, because NOW everyone was aiming at him and the Bulls. To knock him off the top spot. He WORKED harder!

00's – He was considered older...changed teams...did he stop working hard? No!

The things that he could do easily at a younger age he couldn't do them so easily any more...he had to train to keep his body in shape, etc.

He was the GREATEST because he NEVER stopped working! He never got comfortable! He kept working hard!

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (Paul uses sports examples too)

- 24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but **one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.**
- 25 And every man that **striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things**. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
- (NASB) – "Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things...."
- 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:
- 27 But **I keep under my body**, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

WATCH: The video I have downloaded of people who quit pressing...they lost the race!

2 Timothy 4:7 – "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;"

Mark 5:27-30

The woman with the issue of blood didn't stop pushing or she would have walked away with nothing.

QUOTE: "It isn't how you start, but how you finish."

It is how you start, how you run and how you finish. Keep pressing!

LET'S TAKE A LOOK: King Solomon. What is he known for?

Wisdom!

Wealth!

Wives and Idolatry.

I find it interesting that watching Solomon, we see a man who operates in wisdom...and it prospers him. I mean seriously prospers him. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over prospers him.

He said YES to God...He prospered.

He decided to do things according to his flesh...he failed.

I MEAN the whole kingdom was divided because of Solomon's failures.

Don't get sloppy, poppy! Stay sharp...stay hungry.

Keep your flesh in check.

Keep your mind renewed.

Keep proving what God's good plan is for your life.