



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Roamin' In Romans Romans Chapter 12

Romans 12:16 - We Need One Another

Messages preached on Wednesday, June 25th and July 16th and 23rd, 2025

16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

I know we have spent a lot of time going over verses 1 and 2 and setting our focus on laying down our flesh and renewing our minds.

If we are going to operate how God wants us to operate...those will always be the most important thing you will EVER do!

ONE QUESTION: What is the main focus on laying our flesh down and renewing our mind?

OBVIOUS ANSWER: Be more like God...Jesus. Absolutely. But I think it goes deeper and if we look at what our focus has been on in this chapter, we can see ONE OF THE main focuses of laying our flesh down and renewing our mind.

- * Finding our place in the body of Christ.
- * Walk in genuine love.
- * Love like family...like brothers.
- * Honor one another
- * Serve the Lord, earnestly...with fire.
- * Being generous.
- * Being hospitable.
- * Rejoicing and weeping with one another.

NOTICE: Almost to a "T" everything we have been directed to do in this chapter (Paul directed the Roman church that a Christian should look like) is about one another.

That is not by accident.

It is the hardest thing to do...focus on one another. We, in our flesh, just don't do a good job with it.

YOU SAY: "But also being like Jesus." Ya! It doesn't change the answer. Everything Jesus did was about those who followed Him...for us!

Philippians 2

John 13 – He washed the disciples feet.

NOTE: The next FIVE CHAPTERS Jesus is teaching things in the UPPER ROOM (following the last supper)...these are the final things He is going to emphasize to them.

The Holy Spirit, they will be hated, joy, He has overcome the world, He is the Vine...BUT THE FIRST THING He does? Wash their feet!

BELOVED: Which do you think He feels needs to be of primary importance?

JESSICA and I were talking about things last night and she reminded me (or at least brought it up) the mission of our church: UPWARD, OUTWARD and ON WARD.

- * Focus on God
- * Focus on others
- * Focus on the world (or sharing Jesus)

WE FOCUS ON GOD...we are God conscious...not man or devil conscious.

We want to please Him...love on Him...work for Him...know Him...get into His Word.

Not desiring to please man...those around us.

Not focused on what the enemy is doing.

WE FOCUS ON OTHERS...yup...this is what Romans 12 is all about.

We walk in covenant relationships. We love one other. We give to one another. We favor one another above ourselves. We serve one another.

We are not INWARD focused. On ourselves, what pleases us. What we want or need.

WE FOCUS ON EVANGELISM...the WORLD.

When was the last time you shared Jesus with someone?

YOU SAY: Well, I give in the missions offering, so I'm good. Nope!

Are we doing a good job on this?

Romans 12:16 – “Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.”

YESTERDAY: I was conversing with God about stuff...just Him and I talking about the church. He told me that this verse is the key to us getting out of the rut...situations that we are in...this is it.

BELOVED: I wish it was the first time that He has told us this in the past month.

Just the fact that we have been teaching on Romans 12 tells us that He has been talking to us about it...but when you consider that in the MIDDLE of our series on a GLORIOUS CHURCH God stops us to talk about selfishness.

He is alerting us!

We, as a body, **MUST** be **MORE** consumed with one another. We absolutely **MUST**!

ASK YOURSELF: How does what we do or don't do effect others in our BODY?

In Romans 12:16 we are given **three basic directions**...three basic mindsets for the Christian life.

1.) Be of the same mind one toward another.

NOTE: This does NOT mean that we are thinking the same things about everything (same tastes and likes and dislikes).

That would be tough.

Sure, the more you hang around each other, thoughts will begin shifting more in line with each other, but it is okay for us to be different.

Most of the other translations simplify this: **“Live in harmony”** or **“live in the spirit of harmony”**.

I believe that really helps us to understand what God is telling us.

“Harmony” - multiple notes are played at the same time to create a pleasing effect (perhaps show it on piano).

THREE or MORE notes...ALL different...but ALL flowing together in a pleasing sound.

All the notes are different, but they are all after the same focus...same sound...same tone. To make the song sound good.

BELOVED: If the focus, in our lives, is to BE OURSELVES...as we FOLLOW Jesus...and vision that HE has given to Grace Fellowship of Morehead... and help others become the BEST they can be...**then we are ALL in harmony.**

When we are off key...the other notes sound bad too. The song is ruined.

ILLUSTRATION: If you are going to live in HARMONY....that means you all are tuned to the same tuning fork...not your own EAR.

There are a lot of different methods of tuning something (keyboard, contraptions of flood for guitars, tuning based on another string, or a tuning fork)...but it is based on ONE RIGHT NOTE.

There is nothing in music that allows you to tune your instrument based on your FEELINGS...but on the TUNING FORK!

If you had all of your instruments TUNE their instruments on different opinions...even though they play the right note...it would be dissonant (unsuitable, or clashing, not in harmony).

JESUS...HIS WORD...is our tuning fork! Not our opinion...not even your pastor!

“Toward one another” – our focus should be towards one another.

Philippians 2:1-7

- 1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,
- 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.
- 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind **let each esteem other better than themselves.**
- 4 **Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.**
- 5 **Let this mind be in you,** which was also in Christ Jesus:
- 6 Who, being in the form (nature) of God, thought it not robbery to be **equal with God:**
- 7 But **made himself of no reputation,** and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

a.) Made himself. He laid His flesh down...He renewed His mind.
He had to do it.

b.) Form of a servant.
Serving God by serving man!

REMEMBER: Washing the feet of His disciples.

Matthew 20:28 – “Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

NOTICE: The #1 thing He did was serve.

Vs. 8-11 is an amazing finish...but notice the beginning.

2.) Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate.

“of course, Pastor Thad, let’s move on...that is easy!”

“Mind” – consider, intense reflection, or to get fixed upon

NOTE: The tense is negative, so it is an emphatic STOP IT...MIND NOT.
Whatever you do...do not get fixed on high things.

“High Things” – attitude of superiority;

Vs. 3 – Thinking of yourself more highly than you ought.

IN OTHER WORDS: I am too big to serve and help others. They all need to help me!

BELOVED: You will NEVER set yourself for promotion until you learn to serve.

“Condescend” – take off to associate with...team up with

Our view of condescending is to be haughty or superior...but that is not this word.

“Low estate” – humble or common, ordinary

(AMP) – “...do not be haughty (snobbish, high-minded, exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to [people, things] and give yourselves to humble tasks.”

It really presents the concept that we need to make sure we stay away from the mindset that we are better than others...and we need to see ourselves as the same as others.

We are not better because we are a Christian...or a pastor...or a teacher...or a worship leader...or a paymaster...

CONNECT ourselves to those who are ordinary...humble...common.

ILLUSTRATION: The man who had dinner with Rick Renner...who was mean to the servers...and would NOT stop talking himself (the me monster showed up).

ILLUSTRATION: The man who wanted to have lunch with me...and just talked about himself the WHOLE time...who he corrected people...told people to shut up...change...etc. He was NOT looking good, but he thought he was showing how amazing he was.

Stay humble. Stay hungry!

3.) **Be not wise in your own conceits.**

(AMP) – “Never overestimate yourself or be wise in your own conceits.”

(NASB) – “Do not be wise in your own estimation.”

(NLT) – “And don’t think you know it all!”

(PASSION) – “Don’t be smug or even think for a moment that you know it all.”

“Conceits” seems to paint a picture of your own opinion. How YOU see things!

Don’t be PUFFED up in your own opinions.

I like the NLT, **“know it all.”**

QUESTION: Do any of us know people like that?

QUESTION: Are any of us like that?

At first response you may be quick with the NOPE, NOT ME!

HOWEVER: Maybe we are not like that OUT LOUD...but we are in our actions.

THINK ABOUT IT: How many things have you learned in the Word of God, but decided you didn’t trust it...like it...want to do it. Guess who is the KNOW IT ALL?

LITERAL TRANSLATION: Do not trust in the conceit of your own superior skills and understanding, and refuse to hearken to the counsel of others.

SOCIAL MEDIA has created a platform that makes everyone believe their opinion is the TRUTH. They would rather argue than learn.

“Everyone has a right to an opinion...it does not mean their opinion is right.”

Always have a heart of learning.

MY PROFESSOR: “The more I know, the more I know I don’t know.”

If you ever reach the point of knowing it all...you are showing that you don’t really know that much.

ILLUSTRATION: When I was a kid and was watching a football game (the late one, so I couldn't finish it because I had to go to church)...one team was up considerably over the other team. My dad came in and said, "Let's go...I know you want to know who is going to win, but you will have to wait until after church." My response, "This game is over...there is no way that team can come back." My dad explained that anything can happen...I said "NO WAY...there is NO WAY." Guess what, that team did come back and did end up winning the game.

After church my dad sat me down and explained to me that there is value in being humble in my opinions. Don't ever be in that arena of considering other's opinions wrong, because they may end up being right.

BELOVED: The Word of God is our base-line for TRUTH. If we don't line up with the Word...we will always be wrong.

Proverbs 28:26 – "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered."

(AMP) – "He who leans on, trusts in, and is confident of his own mind and heart is a [self-confident] fool, but he who walks in skillful and godly Wisdom shall be delivered."

Psalm 14:1 – A fool says in his heart (mind)...NO GOD!

Proverbs 3:7 – "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil."

Any opinion that goes different than God's...is wrong! No questions asked.

"Well, this is what I think God means." Nope! What did He say!

ALSO: God places people around you to help you...don't think you know it all. **Listen.**

Psalm 1:1-3

- 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- 2 **But his delight is in the law of the LORD;** and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Just because someone SOUNDS important...doesn't mean they are or that they know what they are talking about.

CHARLES SPURGEON: "Do not ask God to CONFIRM your opinion; ask Him to make your opinion CONFORM to His Truth."

Conclusion

BELOVED: If you can't set your focus outward...you will NEVER operate on God's level of things.

You will NEVER see His best.

You will NEVER tap into His heart.

You will NEVER experience the fullness of life He came to give.

THINK OF the new iPhones...they have a new charger port. You buy a new iPhone, they say you need a charger...but you have a charger. It is brand new. It is fancy...high powered.

But it is the wrong type...you will have the best iPhone and not be able to use it very long. You will run out of charge...run out of power...

BELOVED: You can have all the power of ALMIGHTY God in you...available to you...the wealth of Heaven...health of Heaven...peace of Heaven: but if you are not focused on others, if you are selfish, not generous, etc...it won't be long before you will be left with a paper weight.