

# YOUTH

## A Living Sacrifice: Romans 12:2

**2** 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 12:2

Hello Parents! Thank you for reading this week's, Parent Review! We had a great first week back and I was very encouraged to see all the students there this past week.

We broke this verse down into 3 parts.

### 1. Do not be CONFORMED to this world...

If you observe the Greek words in this phrase, it literally translates to this...

**“Do not be fashioned to the pattern of this wicked age...”**

So, we looked at Galatians 5:19-21 to see what some of the patterns of this world are, and to mark and avoid them because if we are Christians, we are trying to be living sacrifices. But God doesn't just tell us a book of rules of what NOT to do... He gives us an alternative! Which leads us to point 2.

### 2. But be TRANSFORMED by the renewal of your mind...

We looked at how this word transformed in the original language is where we get the word Metamorphosis from.



**<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord,<sup>[a]</sup> are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.<sup>[b]</sup> For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18**

I challenged them by asking them if they are growing. I told them that this is what Christians do, they grow. And that they can defeat any sin, and any temptation by the power of Christ because the Word of God is TRANSFORMATIVE!

3. so that by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good, acceptable, and perfect.

If we are Christians, of course we want God's will to come to fruition in our lives. But how do we test to see if something is God's will for us?

1. Does it go against Scripture?
2. Does it offend God?
3. Is it pulling me closer to Jesus or is it drawing me away from Him?

Lastly, at the invitation I told them that I don't want to sound like an old man waving my finger at them telling them that they must seclude themselves in their rooms reading their Bibles every waking second to please God. That is not what this text is saying!

I told them that we have a very real enemy, and he wants to steal, kill, and destroy us, so this transforming of our mind is just helping us prepare to GO into the world where he is. We are called to be people who are in the world but not of it, and this is how we do that very thing. Do not be CONFORMED but be TRANSFORMED!

Thank you, guys, for reading this, and if you are willing, please text me with some feedback on what you think! I know it is tough to find the time to sit and read for a while and so I really thank you! Use this as a tool for discipleship with your teens. Love you guys! – Wesley