

God's grace and mercy (Romans 1-11)



- God forgives our sin
- God justifies us, declaring us “not guilty” but “righteous” (justification)
- God redeems us from the slavery of sins (redemption)
- God covers our sins with His blood (expiation)
- God is no longer angry with our sins (propitiation)
- God reconciles us with Him (atonement)
- God wants us to be His children (election)



The story of prodigal son (Luke 15)



- His father forgives his son by welcoming him
- His father is no longer angry with him by embracing and kissing him
- His father justifies him as his son, by giving him his best robe, his ring and his shoes
- His father reconciles with him by throwing a feast and celebration for his son

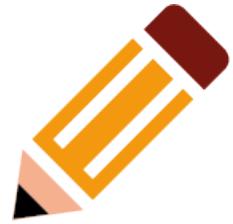


The story of prodigal son (Luke 15)



- What should the response of his prodigal son?
- How should he live now?
- Back to his old life?
- OR
- Have a new life and living in gratitude?

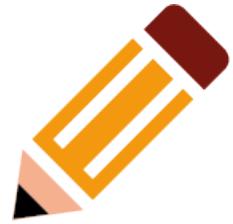




Romans 12:1-2

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.





Our new life

1. Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God as your spiritual worship = offering our whole life to God, full dedication to God

In OT, animal sacrifice is needed to pay for sin.

In NT, there is no animal sacrifice, as Christ has sacrificed for you, bring you from death to alive.

Therefore you are now giving back as a living sacrifice. Living 100% for God.





Our new life

2. Do not conformed to this world = do not live according to the pattern of this world which is against God's will

Example:

- Your friends are making noises in the class and you should not following them
- Your friends are talking in bad words and you should not following them



Our new life



3. Transformed by the renewal of your mind = our concept and thinking have to be changed according to God's words

Example:

- When P1-2, you are coming to Sunday School because your parents want you to.
- When P3-4, you are coming to Sunday School because you want to meet your friends.
- When P5-6, you are coming to Sunday School because you want to know God more.

Our new life



4. Able to discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect = able to differentiate what things that are pleasing to God

Example:

- You are preparing for PSLE but your friend has asked you to play games with him. Are you choosing to play or to study?



Life that is pleasing to God



- Love must be genuine
 - Hate what is evil, hold fast what is good
 - Love one another with brotherly affection
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- Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord
- Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer
- Contribute to the needs of the saints and practice hospitality



Life that is pleasing to God

- Bless and do not curse
- Live in harmony with one another
- Repay no one evil for evil
- Live at peace with all
- Never avenge yourselves, because vengeance is mine, says the Lord
- If your enemy is hungry, feed him
- Overcome evil with good



Life that is pleasing to God



- Owe no one anything
 - Love your neighbor as yourself
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- Put off all evil works and to live in the light
 - Do not live in the darkness
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- Living in close personal fellowship with Him
- Constantly renounce the flesh and refuse to gratify its desires

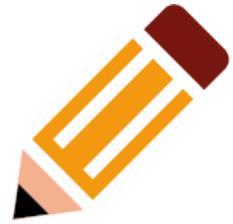


The responsibility of Christians to governing authorities



- To obey government because it has been ordained by God
- Government is God's servants and carry out his wrath on evildoers, and they do so for your good
- Christians should pay taxes
- God approves of Christians disobeying government, only when obedience to government would mean disobeying God





Sharing Time

- What God's grace and mercy that you are most grateful for?
- What pattern of this world that you still follow?
- What are the things that you have already done that is pleasing to God?

