

Romans 12:1-2

Transformation

Sunday 18 June 2017

Transformed worshippers of God

- Our world, Paul's world (Romans 1:18-25)

- God's mercy (Romans 3-11)

Offer your bodies as worship

- Body matters
- Sacrifice – living, holy, acceptable
- 'spiritual worship' – all of life

Resist the pattern of this world

- Squeezed into the mould of the world?
- Identify the idols
- Know when to stop

Be reshaped by renewed minds discovering and loving God's will

- Transformation

Renewing

- Discerning

- Doing – new habits (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

Growth group questions

Feel free to pick and choose as appropriate for your group. Feel free to stop and pray during the session as well.

Read Romans 12:1-2

1. Paul begins these verses with “therefore, in view of God’s mercy”. What is God’s mercy to us? How is it shown?
2. How does knowing God’s mercy lead us to action?
3. How do you react to the idea that your life does not belong to you? (possible follow ups depending on how the group discussion is going: What is hard about the idea? What about the idea is positive?)
4. Which parts of your life do you find hard to see as worship to God?
5. What do you think would help you to change that?
6. Where do you think the ‘pattern of this world’ makes following Jesus hard for you?
7. Do you think there are any areas of church life where we can fall into the trap of following the ‘pattern of this world? Why do you think this is?
8. Is there an area in your life (and if so what?) where you need to take decisive action to make sure you do not get sucked into the ‘pattern of this world’?
9. How does the idea that we are being transformed into people who will be like Jesus make you feel about life now?
10. How do you in practice work at making sure your mind is being transformed by Jesus? What practical steps could you take to do this more and more?
11. What does it mean to be able to ‘test and approve’ God’s will?
12. How do you react to the idea that God’s will is ‘good, pleasing and perfect’?

Pray about how you, as a group, and HSBC as a church can put these verses into practice more and more.