

## “Living Sacrifice”

### A Study of the Book of Romans

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**Key Truth:** Because God is merciful, we willingly present our bodies to Him as our worshipful response.

In Romans chapter 12, Paul shifts his focus from mainly doctrinal to applicational. In the first 11 chapters, Paul had been laying the foundation of justification by faith in Jesus Christ alone. Now, he begins building the “house” of sanctification. Justification (our salvation) entailed the sacrifice of God’s own Son. Sanctification also entails a kind of sacrifice. Not a sacrifice that *brings* atonement, but one that translates into worship. Christ’s sacrifice should naturally yield the response of sacrifice. For God, in his great mercy, to move heaven and earth to save sinful man, and then for us to fail to respond in worship is a slap in his face. So, after Paul teaches about God’s work of redemption, he now turns to our work of worship.

## DISCUSS

Read **Romans 12:1** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled “**Living Sacrifice.**”

## DIG IN

### 1. The Appeal to Sacrifice: (Romans 12:1a)

Why do you think Paul gives an appeal rather than a command to sacrifice?

In what ways is it significant that Paul makes his appeal based on the mercies of God?

Why is it important that our living sacrifice involve our bodies and not just our spirits or motivations?

### 2. The Quality of the Sacrifice: (Romans 12:1b)

In what ways does the gospel ensure that our sacrifice is *living* and *holy*?

What are some ways that our sacrifice becomes acceptable to God? Why is that important?

What is the significance of offering our “bodies” (plural) as a living “sacrifice” (singular)?

### 3. The Purpose of the Sacrifice: (Romans 12:1c)

The purpose of our sacrifice is that we would bring spiritual or reasonable worship to God. Why is that an important purpose?

This spiritual worship is intelligent and logical. Why should our spiritual worship engage the mind?

What are specific examples of offering our bodies as a living sacrifice as spiritual worship?

## DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?