

"The Difficult & Immense Call to Sacrifice" Part 2 Romans 12:14-21 October 18, 2020

Sacrifice – to surrender or give up, or permit injury or disadvantage to, for the sake of something else. *(Dictionary.com)*

to give up something useful or important that you choose not to do or have, in order to have something that is more important: (*Cambridge English Dictionary*)

Our call is to sacrifice our lives Vs 1-2

We must have right relationship with the Lord

Our call is to sacrifice in service to others Vs 3-8 We must have a right thinking about ourselves

Our call to sacrifice is confirmed by our lives Vs 9-13 We must be in a right relationship with others

- We must be willing to love authentically Vs 9a,10
- We must hate wrong and love good Vs 9b
- We must be passionate in serving Vs 11
- We must persevere through trials Vs 12
- We must be generous & hospitable Vs 13
- We must <u>bless</u> those who mistreat us Vs 14 Matthew 5:39-48; Luke 6:27; 1 Peter 2:21-23
- We must <u>identify</u> with others Vs 15
 1 Corinthians 12:26; Colossians 3:12; Galatians 6:2

- We must be <u>humble</u> Vs 16
 1 Corinthians 1:10; Philippians 1:27; James 4:10; Galatians 6:3; Proverbs 3:7; Isaiah 5:21
- We must love even when wronged Vs 17-21
 - ✓ Never return <u>evil</u> for <u>evil</u> Vs 17a
 1 Peter 3:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; Proverbs 20:22
 - Always respect what is right Vs 17b
 2 Corinthians 8:21
 - ✓ Live in <u>peace</u> with everyone Vs 18 Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; 1Thes. 5:13b
 - ✓ Never <u>avenge</u> yourself Vs 19 Hebrews 10:30; Deuteronomy 32:35
 - ✓ Overcome evil with good Vs 20-21
 Proverbs 25:21-22

Our Response:

- 1. What is your (and others) normal reaction when someone wrongs you? Why is this our natural reaction? Name a time this happened to you.
- 2. Why is it so hard to want to bless someone who hurts us? Why does doing this make us more like Jesus?
- 3. Why is it so important to identify with others either in their joy or their sorrow? What difference does it make for them and even for you?
- 4. Why is it important to leave room for God's vengeance and not ours? Why isn't this easy to do?
- 5. How can you be a peace with others and not return evil for evil for those who disagree with you or even hurt you?
- 6. Can you really overcome evil with good? How can you do that in your life?