

**New Beginning—Transformed  
Study Questions  
Romans 12:1-2**

**Warm-up**

**1) Has there been a big event or decision that changed the way you live your life? If so, what keeps you from going back and living the way you used to?**

**Alternatively, has there been a big event or decision that failed to bring the change you thought it would? If so, what did you think would change, and why do you think it didn't change that way?**

**A little deeper**

**2) [Romans 12:1]** The “Therefore” of this verse refers to the preceding chapters that all boil down to God’s saving grace through Christ’s death in our place. In light of this gift, we are to worship God through the way we live, as a living sacrifice. **What does it look like for someone to offer themselves as a *living sacrifice* to God—what examples come to mind?**

**3) Under the Old Testament, when a Jewish person brought an offering to God, they were to make sure it was “without defect” or “without blemish” (for examples, see Leviticus 1:3, 10; 3:1, 6; 4:3, 23, 28... or over 20 more places in the books of Leviticus and Numbers). What do you think it means for a *living sacrifice* to be without defect or blemish? What might such a blemish look like?**

**Do you know of anyone who has offered themselves as a living sacrifice without any blemish?**

**4) [Romans 12:2] What sorts of things do you think of when you hear “do not be conformed to [the pattern of] this world” in this verse? What worldly patterns are easy to fall into?**

**5) There is a model of behavior that places an emphasis on how our minds interpret the things we perceive. Our mind’s interpretation is fed into our hearts where evaluated for how it effects the things we care about. Emotional responses and actions follow. What can happen to our hearts and actions when our minds generate false or distorted interpretations? What sorts of transformations of mind have you seen God work in people?**

**Bringing it home**

**6) How often do you feel gratitude or give thanks for the reconciliation we have through Jesus’ death on the cross? What would you suggest for someone who has trouble being thankful in this area?**

**7) In what ways are you already offering yourself as a living sacrifice to God?**

**8) Can you identify any patterns of mind that you need to offer up to God to transform? How might you ask God to help you in that area?**