

“What is Spiritual Worship” (Part 1)
Romans 11:34-12:2

“The true intellectual value of something determines what desires have preeminence in your life.”

- *“I appeal to you, therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God....”*
 - Paul is aggressively pursuing the believers to consider the great mercies of God as a constant way of life.
 - *Nothing good that we have is deserved or earned. No one has ever given something to God that wasn't His already and no one has received anything that is good from God that was owed to us or deserved by us. To Him be the glory.*
 - It is the mercy and grace of God that enables us and motivates us to live for the glory of God. The Christian life is both thinking and living biblically or a radically holy life (Hebrews 12:1-2 & 13:15-16 & 21).
- *“To present your bodies as a living sacrifice....”*
 - When a sacrifice was presented to God, it was presented to God in the way that He prescribed (Leviticus 1-7). In the Old Testament a dead sacrifice was placed on the altar, in the New Testament we are to present a living sacrifice. The sacrifice was also made holy or set apart in it being given to the Lord. The sacrifice was pleasing to the Lord when it was given in obedience.
 - We are to present ourselves entirely, that is with nothing held back. The Christian life is total and complete surrender in *mind, will, emotion, church, home, and the workplace*. I'm no longer my own (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Acts 20:24).
 - *Loss:* Guilt, power of sin, eternal condemnation, Hell, judgment, separation from God, and hopelessness.
 - *Gain:* Forgiveness, righteousness, Holy Spirit, enjoyment of God eternally, mercy, sonship, grace, love, and hope.
 - There is an acceptable way to live for God and an unacceptable way to live for God (2 Peter 1:8-11).
- *“Do not be conformed to this world....” (matching attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors)*
 - The world and the will of God are at odds (James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Leviticus 18:1-5). The world will pass away along with its desires but if you do the will of God you will live forever.
 - The world and the will of God are incompatible: Purpose or Meaning of life, Sex, Community, Truth, Friendships, Family, Money, Leisure/Rest, Religion, Commitments.
 - The world is either hostile towards God or simply ignores God. The world is either God's enemy or the world doesn't find God worth considering.
- *“Be transformed by the renewal of your mind....” (a thorough or dramatic change in appearance)*
 - My mind needs to be totally transformed, and will need to be continually transformed. We call this process sanctification (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; Philippians 2:12-13).
 - The means of the transformation is what we call the means of grace, and the means of grace lead us to the good, perfect, and acceptable will of God.
 - *“The 'means of grace' are such as Bible reading, private prayer, and regularly worshiping God in Church, wherein one hears the Word taught and participates in the Lord's Supper. I lay it down as a simple matter of fact that no one who is careless about such things must ever expect to make much progress in sanctification.” (JC Ryle)*

Worship: 10,000 Reasons (Matt Redman)

Grace Alone (The Modern Post)

In Tenderness (The Sing Team)

Closing Song: My Worth Is Not In What I Own (The Gettys)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

***Volunteers:** We have a couple of wonderful opportunities for our church members to get involved in serving our church body:

1. **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:** If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!
2. **SET-UP/TEAR-DOWN MINISTRY:** We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping with the set-up and tear-down of the facility for the worship services. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions, please talk to Hunter!

***Fellowship Dinner:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. We invite EVERYONE to stay and enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!

***Special Offering:** Throughout August we are collecting a special offering for the HeartCry Missionary Society! There is a container on the back table, beside the tithe box, for you to put your monetary donations into! There are also 2 options for online giving: directly on their website (the information for this is on the front of the container on the back table) AND through AmazonSmile. (When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, selections, and convenient shopping as on Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice - in our case, HeartCry.) This is also a way to give to them throughout the year, not just during these next couple of months. There are handouts on the back table with more information on how to set up AmazonSmile. Please see Pastor Joel for any questions about AmazonSmile.

***Vertical 196 Volunteer Training:** Tuesday, August 19th at 5pm. This training provided by Vertical 196 must be completed in order to serve guests during their hours of operation. The training is approximately 1 hour in duration. There is no limitation to the number of people being trained. There is a sign-up list on the back table, see Pastor Joel if you have any questions.

***End of Summer Party:** We are planning an "End of Summer" party for Saturday, August 21st, at Mike & Marci Tommey's home. More details to come soon, but please mark your calendars and plan on attending!

Account Balance: \$39,863.15 June Balance: \$44,477.45	Weekly Budget: \$3,200.50
Actual Tithe: July 4	\$825
Actual Tithe: July 11	\$4,472.25
Actual Tithe: July 18	\$823
Actual Tithe: July 25	\$3,461