

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – April 1st – 6th
Doing Life Together – 3D Life

MONDAY:

KEY VERSE: Romans 12:1-2

OBSERVATION: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God . . .” I appeal to you therefore . . .” That is, I appeal to you on the basis of what has gone before in the first eleven chapters of this letter. I will now call you in chapters twelve through sixteen to a kind of life that is built on something. It doesn’t come out of nowhere. It has roots. This new Christian life is built on chapters one through eleven. Build your Christian life on Romans 1–11. Sink your roots here. And your fruit will be Christian fruit.

TUESDAY:

KEY VERSE: Philemon 1:8-9

OBSERVATION: Build your lives on this mercy. Sink your roots in this mercy. And your new life will flow out with mercy. That is, Romans 12 will become a reality in your own life. Romans 12 oozes with mercy. “Show mercy with cheerfulness. . . . Let love be genuine. . . . Give to the saints. . . . Bless those who persecute you. . . . Weep with those who weep. . . . Associate with the lowly. . . . Repay no one evil for evil. . . . Never avenge yourselves. . . . If your enemy is hungry feed him.” Build your lives on mercy and become merciful.

WEDNESDAY:

KEY VERSE: Romans 12:1

OBSERVATION: Paul put worship before mercy and that he define the Christian life as worshipful before he defines it as merciful. Or to put it more carefully, Paul defines the Christian life as worship so that it can be merciful. If we are not worshipping in our behavior — that is, if we are not making much of God’s mercy in Christ in and alongside our behavior — we are not giving people what they need most. And that is not merciful. A merciful lifestyle depends on a worshipful lifestyle.

THURSDAY:

KEY VERSE: Hebrews 10:12

OBSERVATION: Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.” That was the final sacrifice for sin, because it was perfect and sufficient for all who believe. Christ brought to an end the Old Testament sacrifices for sin. He finished the great work of atonement. His death cannot be improved on. All we have to do now is trust him for that great work. We do not add to it. So when Paul says that our worship is to present our bodies as a sacrifice he does not mean that we die and atone for our sins. Well what does he mean? Let’s take the four words he gives and see what each contributes to understanding a lifestyle of daily worship: bodies, living, holy, acceptable to God.

FRIDAY:

KEY VERSE: 1 Peter 2:5

OBSERVATION: The sacrifice of our bodies to God is not a sacrifice for sin. That is done already in the sacrifice of Christ. Which is why bodies like ours are acceptable. Peter makes this really clear in 1 Peter 2:5 where he says something similar to Romans 12:1: “Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God” — then he adds these words: through Jesus Christ. It’s because of Jesus that our sacrifices to God are acceptable.

SATURDAY:

KEY VERSE: Romans 6:13

OBSERVATION: “Present a living holy body to God” means give your members — your eyes, your tongue, your hands and feet — give your body to do righteousness, not sin. That’s what would make a body holy. A body is holy not because of what it looks like, or what shape it’s in, but because of what it does. Is it the physical “instrument” of a hunger for righteousness? Is it the physical instrument of meekness and mercy and peace?