



**LC STUDY GUIDE: DONE IN SYNC WITH  
THE SERMON SERIES “S7CK”  
The Passage – Romans 12:1-8  
For LCs meeting 3.9.14 – 3.23.14**

*These LC studies complement the sermons, often using the same biblical texts, and will help your LC go deeper in personal understanding and application. These italicized portions are meant to resource and help you in leading and are not to be distributed to the entire group (it limits conversation). Not all of these questions need to be used in your LC meeting. Best to consider this a head-start to customize for your LC.*

## **Big Idea: Pride is conquered by humility and worship.**

### **Romans 12:1-8 (NIV © 2011)**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

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### **Discussion Questions:**

What tone does Paul, the author of Romans, seem to have in this passage?  
*(he is earnest, desperately pleading with the Roman believers)*

According to verse 1, what are some of the qualities of true and proper worship?  
*(offering our bodies to God as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to Him)*

In verse 2, Paul urges believers not to be conformed to the pattern of this world. What are some of the pressures, stresses, impulses, and difficulties that you associate with “the pattern of this world”?

*(examples: people living for themselves—their own pleasure, ambition, success, etc.)*

How can we avoid conforming to the pattern of the world and instead be transformed by the renewing of our minds?

*(reading and meditating on Scripture, memorizing it, talking about it, prayer—asking God to transform every area of our lives, living in fellowship and community with other believers, etc.)*

Think about how God has been transforming you. What are some specific ways God has been renewing your mind? (maybe concerning a particular issue, way of life, or inward change)

What does it mean for us to think of ourselves with sober judgment?

*(to think of ourselves as we really are—desperately in need of God’s grace no matter who we are/what we have or have not done, not good on our own, etc.)*

Why can it be difficult to do this?

*(we easily become prideful, focus on ourselves, etc.)*

Paul uses the analogy of a body with many parts. The body does not function correctly without each part working as it was designed to work. Each part is significant. How is this like the Body of Christ, the Church?

*(each member of the Body of Christ has great significance and gifts that are necessary for the health and building up of the Church)*

What are the different gifts listed in this passage?

*(prophecy, service, teaching, exhortation (encouragement), giving, leading, mercy)*

Think for a moment about your own spiritual gifts. What is one gift that you have?

What gifts do you see in one another? *(other gifts are listed in 1 Cor. 12 and Eph. 4)*

As followers of Christ and part of the Body of Christ, what are some of the responsibilities we have?

*(using the gifts we have been given for the building up of the Body of Christ, recognizing the significance of every member of the Body, treating all people equally and with love)*

- a. **Please note that not all these questions are to be asked in a single meeting.** Take some time and select and reword the questions that best fit your voice and your LIFE Community group. Certain questions work better for certain groups. You are encouraged to prayerfully discern what will serve your LC the best.
- b. Complement these questions with “process questions” (what else? what more? what do others think?).

- c. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. Wait. Take your time; don't rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- d. Timing/pacing: allocate your time and move forward gently, with a steady pace.
- e. Application: Pace the study to conclude with "difference making" application.
- f. Secondary texts—use other texts sparingly, even if they are relevant. Such texts will push you into "teaching," rather than facilitating. It can cause people to feel distracted or de-powered.