

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH



Foundations of Faith Teaching Series

Questions for Discussion

October 18 True and Proper Worship

*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. ² 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. **Romans 12:1 – 2***

Warm Up

- 1 What comes into your mind when you think of worship?
- 2 Read the passage in The Message.

Unpacking the Passage

- 3 The passage begins with the word 'therefore'. Look at the end of chapter 11. What is Paul's reasoning for the exhortation that follows?
- 4 What do you think it means in practice to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God? How is this true and proper worship?
- 5 What is the difference between conformed and transformed?
- 6 What are some ways we can be conformed to the pattern of this world? Are there some areas where you find this particularly difficult and you feel pressure to conform? Share positive examples where you have resisted the pressure to conform.
- 7 Why do you think Paul talks about renewing the mind? How do you think we can renew our minds? Think of ways we can do this
- 8 Paul writes, '*Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.*'

How can we know God's will and what pleases him?

Getting Practical

- 9 **Putting off - Conform** – Are there some specific habits, practices, beliefs, influences which God is challenging you to change?
- 10 **Putting on - Transform** – Are there some specific things you can do in the next week to help transform your mind?

And Finally

What are 1 or 2 key things you will take away from this discussion? What has God spoken to you about?