



Word: Romans 12:1-2

“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.

As we come to the end of the year we can agree that 2020 has brought a lot of change. It has changed the way we gather at school, at work, at home, at church, even the way we eat out - if we even eat out at all. Majority of meetings, whether it is for work or personal reasons, have been done virtually. Most of the changes has been difficult and while some are getting adjusted to new routines, others are still getting used to the changes. More than likely, it will continue to the next year.

Although changes in the things around us are inevitable and out of our control – God never changes. Paul reminds us in the book of Romans of God’s invisible qualities – eternal power and divine nature since the creation of the world (Ro. 1:20). That

God is a righteous judge (Ro. 2:5).
That God is faithful (Ro. 3).

Therefore, we are at His mercy and have been justified by grace for those who believe in Jesus Christ (Ro. 3:24). Because of His mercy and grace – we have life. Our life should acknowledge Christ’s reason for being born – to be the atonement of sin for all – by being a living sacrifice and being transformed into His likeness and not of this world.

As we enter a new year it should be a resolution in our mind, heart, and soul to live out the will of God for us. The only way we can truly know His will for us is when we are transformed by the Holy Spirit to be like Jesus Christ and drawing closer to God.



Discussion:

1. How have you seen yourself grow spiritually since the beginning of this year?
How do you intend to continue to grow in the coming year of 2021?
2. What do you think God's will is for you in 2021?
3. What commitment (new year's resolution) will you make to God that shows your acknowledgement of the gospel?