

What God Wants

First United Pentecostal Church ~ Sunday Morning, June 22, 2003

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

WHY would I give God what He wants?

Psalm 103:11-12 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

WHAT does God want from me?

1. A _____ sacrifice

Romans 12:1 (MSG) Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

2. A _____ sacrifice

2 Corinthians 6:17 (MSG) So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good, says God. Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself.

3. A _____ sacrifice

Proverbs 21:3 (KJV) To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

4. A _____ sacrifice

1 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him:

neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

HOW can I give God what He wants?

• BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD.

Romans 12:2 (NLT) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world ...

Romans 12:2 (NJB) Do not model your behaviour on the contemporary world ...

• BE YE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND.

Romans 12:2 (NCV) Be changed within by a new way of thinking ...

Romans 12:2 (MSG) You'll be changed from the inside out ...

I repent whenever I change the way I think by adopting the way _____ thinks.

Proverbs 4:23 (TEV) Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts.

Philippians 2:5 (CEV) Think the same way that Christ Jesus thought:

There are two parts to having the mind of Christ:

1. Stop thinking _____ thoughts

1 Corinthians 14:20 (NIV) Stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

Romans 8:5 (NCV) Those who live following their sinful selves think only about things that their sinful selves want.

2. Start thinking _____ thoughts

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (MSG) Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.

1 Corinthians 13:11 (NIV) When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.