

Family Matters

FAMILY MATTERS

August 9, 2026

ROMANS 12:1-2

SUNDAY REFRESHER

Every family is being shaped by something. Our routines, calendars, spending, entertainment, relationships, and habits may seem ordinary, but together they reveal the pattern our family is following. The unsettling truth is that a Christian family can attend church, join a Life Group, pray before meals, and still live almost exactly like the neighbor down the street. A few Christian activities added to an otherwise unchanged life are not necessarily evidence of transformation.

Romans 12 calls us to something deeper. In view of everything God has done for us through Jesus, we are invited to offer our entire lives to Him and allow the Holy Spirit to renew our minds. This transformation does not begin with outward rules or an attempt to appear more spiritual. It begins on the inside as God changes how we think, what we value, and how we view our time, money, relationships, and purpose. When our thinking becomes centered on Jesus, the pattern of our family begins to change.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

- *What did God say to you through this passage and teaching?*
- *Did God reveal anything new to you?*
- *How is this relevant in your journey to make disciples who Love God and Love people?*



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QUESTIONS

- *If someone observed your family for an entire week, what would they conclude is shaping your lives? Consider your mornings, conversations, schedules, spending, entertainment, relationships, and weekends.*
- *In what ways has your family added Christian activities to a lifestyle that otherwise looks very similar to the culture around you? Where might God be calling you beyond simple participation and into genuine transformation?*
- *What is one area of your family life where your thinking needs to be renewed? How would that area look different if it were guided by the values and priorities of Jesus?*

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Romans 12:1-2

CONCLUSION

The question is not simply whether we attend church, pray before meals, give to good causes, or spend time with other Christians. The deeper question is whether the Word of God and the Holy Spirit are actually renewing our minds. We are all being shaped by something, and if we are not intentionally allowing God to shape us, the patterns of the world will do it without asking our permission.

Transformation begins when we place our whole lives before God as living sacrifices. As He changes our thinking, He begins changing our priorities, choices, and routines from the inside out. Our families will not all look exactly the same, but a family being transformed by Jesus should increasingly reflect His compassion, generosity, hospitality, purpose, and love. Stop conforming to the pattern of this world, and allow God to transform what shapes your family.

Knowing that life transformation happens best through intentional, meaningful relationships, don't let this week's sermon remain as mere information. In the next few days, look for ways to teach, challenge, encourage and/or pray about what you're discovering!

