



## **A Living Sacrifice: Romans 12:16-21**

Hey guys, thank you for reading this week's review! I hope that this will be a great help to you all for discipleship and kingdom growth in your homes! We have finally wrapped up our series on being A Living Sacrifice and we are excited to see what God has got for us next! After reading, please send me some feedback to let me know if/how this resource was helpful. Love you guys!

### **1. Live in Harmony, do not be Haughty...**

Paul does in this passage, like he does in many of his other passages, by stating something and then directly answering objections to the statement. Here He does this over the next few verses by addressing some concerns for people who are "lower" than those he is talking to... and by addressing those who persecute the Christians of the day. He says to live in harmony with EVERYONE! Avoiding "snobyness", and meeting people where they are. This is not as easy task, but it is a worthwhile one if we are to be ambassadors of the Gospel! We talked about how this was Jesus's attitude in His Earthly ministry, and how if we are going to be living sacrifices to God, we must seek to do this as well.

## **2. Repay No one Evil for Evil... Live Peaceably with All Men**

You may say to the first point, “well what about people who do me wrong? I need to get back at them.” And Paul answers that objection directly. He gives us a couple different commands here...

- Do not repay evil for evil
- GIVE THOUGHT
- Do what is honorable in the sight of all
- Live peaceably with all

This is one of the hardest things to do in the Christian faith, and this is where the rubber meets the road. I told a story to the kids about a time that I had an acquaintance who was very mean to me. The guy was a belligerent atheist and was mean as a snake. He made fun of me for being a Christian and he was so nasty to me. But, he broke his leg, and he ended up needing some help for his business, and he asked me to help. I was going to refuse, but my father took me to this passage, and he showed me in the Word how I should handle the situation. I ended up sharing this passage with the guy and it was a great testimony to him, and I was able to get the gospel across because of that. Now I don't say that to boast in anything other than... this really works! It is a true and surefire way for us to share the gospel with a lost world and to go against the cultural norms in order to point people to Jesus! Which leads us to the last point...

### **3. Overcome Evil with Good!!**

We are not supposed to seek revenge, that is the work of God. We are to seek peace among all mankind, and to act graciously in all circumstances. The idea of “hot coals on the head” to me, means that it drives our enemies to question why we would do the things we do. The world expects us to seek revenge. It expects us to lash out when we have been done wrong... but when we live like Jesus, with grace and mercy, it drives the world to wonder what we have inside of us that makes us different. That is how we overcome evil with good. The light ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS shines in the darkness!

Thank you guys for reading this week, it has been a blessing to hear from you all and to teach through this chapter so far this year. I am so thankful to all you parents and to all the students. The best is truly yet to come! Let's go be living sacrifices to God in this lost and dying world! Love you guys!