

Romans 12:1-5 Part 22
Finding My Place
04/24/2022

- Finding My Place
- Description section
- What the Christian Life looks like
- Maturity
- Because you're free you can
- Because you're free you must
- Obligations to maintain God's favor
- The Law makes you focus on you
- Grace focuses on Jesus
- It is the devil that wants to cast us back to our own resources
- Replace the Gospel of Self-Improvement with the Gospel of Life- Transforming Grace

Romans 12:1-5 (GNT) So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer. Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect. And because of God's gracious gift to me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you should. Instead, be modest in your thinking, and judge yourself according to the amount of faith that God has given you. We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body.

How to find my place:

1st) **RESPOND.**

Romans 12:1 (GNT) So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him.

- Paul is letting us know we're to respond to that by doing something
- The first evidence of wisdom is order
- God, I'm available to you
- Keep the most important thing the most important thing
- Your reaction to the Word of God is a picture of Your Respect for God

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NLT) "Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body."

- How do you honor God with your body?

- You take care of it.

Psalm 119:73 (TLB) "You made my body, Lord; now give me sense to heed your laws"

- Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is take a nap!

1 Corinthians 9:25 (NLT) "All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize"

He does not ask much of us, merely a thought of Him from time to time, a little act of adoration, sometimes to ask for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sufferings, at other times to thank Him for the graces, past and present. Lift up your heart to Him during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be the most pleasing to Him. One need not cry out very loudly; He is nearer to us than we think.

2nd) **REFOCUS.**

Romans 12:2 (GNT) Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

- I do my best to eliminate competing distractions
- There's some things you're going to have to eliminate
- You're going to have to revise your lifestyle.
- You're going to have to look at your priorities.
- What is the pattern of this world?
- I don't understand the world
- Spirit of the Antichrist
- It's a worldly form of self-righteousness

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

How to Refocus:

A) Start **SMALL.**

- View your decisions as seeds
- Every decision you make is like planting a seed and seeds take time to grow
- Little things matter

Zech. 4:10 (ICB) The people should not think that small beginnings are unimportant

- Many people will not achieve the assignment God gave them because they want their beginnings to be spectacular

B) Be **WILLING** to follow the instruction.

- When Jesus wanted to show grace he gave a simple instruction

John 9:7 (ERV) Jesus told him, “Go and wash in Siloam pool.” So the man went to the pool, washed and came back. He was now able to see.

Luke 5:4 (ERV) When Jesus finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Take the boat into the deep water. If all of you will put your nets into the water, you will catch some fish.”

John 2:7 (ERV) Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the waterpots with water.” So they filled them to the top.

- Great miracles do not require great instructions
- Great miracles require obeyed instructions
- God gives uncommon instructions to common people

Is. 1:19 (NIV) If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land;

3rd) **REEVALUATE.**

Romans 12:3 (GNT) And because of God's gracious gift to me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you should. Instead, be modest in your thinking, and judge yourself according to the amount of faith that God has given you.

- Reevaluate your strengths
- “Think about yourself with sober judgments”
- Sober "to save" and "mind" -- to save your mind.
- Do some realistic self appraisal
- What are my strengths and what are my weaknesses?
- Recognizing your strongest gift is important to your call in ministry
- Everyone receives gifts from God but few recognize their dominant gift
- David knew his dominant gift
- He was a warrior and he knew it
- Joseph knew his dominant gift
- He had the gift of uncommon compassion
- Paul knew his dominate gift
- Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ

4th) **REGROUP.**

Romans 12:4-5 (GNT) We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body.

- We're getting the band back together, we're on a mission from God
- Cooperate with other believers
- Think of yourself as a minister
- Beggars telling other beggars where we found bread

Eph. 4:12 (NIRV) He gave all these people so that they might prepare God's people to serve. Then the body of Christ will be built up.

- There's nothing greater than to be used by God
- Think of yourself as unique

1 Cor. 12:21 (NIV) The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

- Think of yourself as being needed

Isaiah 6:8 (NIV) Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do, and what I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do."

- Word of Grace will build you up