



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

The Big Idea

The bigger the rumble, the greater the reward.

Message Summary

There are some passages in the Bible that are almost TOO practical! In other words, we read them and think, "Whoa. I'm not sure that's even possible!" Romans 12 is one of those passages. We so often read the first 2 verses about being a sacrifice and being transformed and then forget to connect that with the rest of the chapter. The end result is that we think we can accomplish those 2 commands in the comfortable places (and usually sitting by ourselves!). But Paul got practical and revealed that it's in relationship that we're sacrificed and transformed, and Romans 12:9-10 are 2 of the most hard-hitting verses of them all. It's messy in the remix, and it can feel at times like a rumble, but the bigger the rumble, the greater the reward!

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- How would you explain the phrase "living sacrifice" in Romans 12:1 to someone else? How do verses 9-10 help shed light on your answer?
- Of the 3 waves that we often encounter on the way to the deeper things of God - love deeply, hold tightly, honor courageously - which represents the bigger rumble for you right now? Why?
- The apostle Paul stated clearly in v. 2 that we are not to be conformed to the pattern of this world in our relationships. Take a moment to read Romans 12:9-21 and contrast the pattern of the world with the pattern of the kingdom.
- How is Christ helping you to love deeply, hold tightly, and honor courageously?
- What relationship in your life most needs this type of kingdom living? Take a moment in silence to ask for God's forgiveness, understanding, patience and power for this relationship.