

Living a Dedicated Christian Life

Romans 12:1-2

Part 3

How does your lifestyle demonstrate your devotion to Jesus Christ?

Am I like Jesus when no one is looking?

Does my sin break my heart because I know it breaks God's heart?

Am I spiritually disciplined in things like Bible reading, Scripture memory, Scripture meditation, prayer, church attendance, and church involvement?

And am I faithful to these activities **because** I realize these disciplines help me **deepen my devotion** to Christ?

Your heart's desires determine your actions.

So what are your reasons for being committed and devoted to certain things in your life?

Are you willing to allow the Lord to show you if your dedication is misplaced or misapplied?

Paul gives us the answer to the question:

How do I place myself on the altar of God's salvation mercies for God's exclusive use of my mind, my body, and my desires in life?

In what ways am I presenting myself as a worship offering to God?

How do I get Jesus in front of you? How do I use me to help you see the truth that,

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.” (Gal. 2:20)

I. Dedicate Your **Body** to the Lord

A. Living

B. Holy

C. Acceptable



Abraham and Isaac

D. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 ***“glorify God in your body”***

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

- The negative command is ***“Do not be conformed...”***
- ***“conformed”*** = to allow yourself to be shaped (i.e., your **mind**, **behavior**, and **character**) to another person’s pattern.
- Greek usage = to **fit**, **fashion**, or **form something by using a mold or a preformed container**.

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

“**World**” is from **aion**, meaning **age**.

- In this case, it refers to an **evil** age; the prevailing, dominant, **sinful** ways of thinking and living in our society. It refers to the way any given period in history is defined by its values, beliefs, and morals **in distinction to God's**.

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

“Stop assuming an outward expression which is patterned after this world, an expression which does not come from, nor is representative of what you are in your inner being as a regenerated child of God.” *(K. Wuest)*

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

- 1 Corinthians 1:20; 2:6; 3:18
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Galatians 1:4

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

Now Paul tells what must be done in order for us to dedicate our hearts/minds to God: **“...but be transformed”** = a command!

- **“transformed”** (*metamorphoo*) = to change into another form, to transfigure. In English, metamorphosis.
- We are to continually undergo a transformation — a process of being changed from one form into another form.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

How are we to be transformed?

- ***“by the renewing of your mind”*** = renewing has the idea of renovation or a complete change for the better.

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

Our minds will either be **conformed** to the **world** or **transformed** by the **Word**.

II. Dedicate Your **Heart/Mind** to the Lord

When you learn to **value God above all**, His views and desires on the issues of life will shape **your** views and desires on the issues of life.

III. Dedicate Your **Will** to the Lord

*“...that you may prove what the **will of God** is...”*

III. Dedicate Your **Will** to the Lord

Your will is the choice-center of your heart/mind.

When you are in the active process of being transformed into Christlikeness by the renewing of your mind, you are gladly surrendering your choices, or your will, to God.

III. Dedicate Your **Will** to the Lord

Your heart/mind is your **processing center** where you determine what *is* shaping you and what *will* shape you.

Your feelings and desires attach to what your heart/mind values and holds to. And your desires fuel the direction of your **will** — what you **choose** to put your body in motion to say and do.

III. Dedicate Your **Will** to the Lord

“Our lives can prove what the will of God is only by doing those things that are good and acceptable and perfect to **Him.**” *(John MacArthur)*

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