

INTERPRETERS AND REFLECTIONS

Romans 12.1, 2 // February 16, 2020

IMAGE BEARERS

**We become who we are not by looking inward,
but by looking outward.**

Paul tells us that we are becoming and will be conformed with what we look to and behold as beautiful and worthy of our adoration. Something we see as necessary for satisfaction. We are not originators of our own unique lives and personalities, but rather we have interpreted and responded to the many things that happen around us. Those choices shape our reflection.

We are 100% made to be reflections, we are not originators. Therefore, we must ask ourselves, what is it we are reflecting, and why? And also, what do we *want* to reflect?

Psalm 115.4-8

NEVER NEUTRAL

As we read Paul's words in **Romans 12.1, 2**, we necessarily make the assumption that when he speaks of the "body" being presented, he is speaking not simply of the physical body, but everything that involves our body: thoughts, words, emotions, desires, habits, etc. We ought to be able to present *all* of those things to Him as holy and acceptable. So, though many things in life are inherently neutral (social media, entertainment, food, etc.), the heart, approach, and motivation we bring to them is never neutral.

Matthew 15.10, 11

RENEWING THE MIND

Colossians 3.1-16

We need to be willing to put off old ways, habits, and liturgies, and put on new ones. We do this by fixing our eyes on, and beholding, the things that are above, not the things that are below.

John 15.4, 5

To have our minds renewed, we have to learn how to abide in the vine. God gives us three primary things that help us to be connected to His power and stay abiding in Him. These three key foundational "means of grace" are the Word, prayer, and Gospel community. God uses these things firstly to reveal our blind spots and the "water" of habits we swim in but don't see. Secondly, these things put on display a more worthy object of worship, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And thirdly, they point us to and connect us to the power of the Gospel so that we can truly change. Through this, we are renewed.

NOTES:

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Romans 10:10

For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Elder Candidates

Tyler Willis and Casey Barnes

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **Romans 12.1, 2**. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

If we are made to be reflectors, what encouragement do you get when you think about the daunting task of being renewed and transformed? How does knowing that we are image bearers, not originators, give you hope for your desire to be renewed?

Repent and Ask for Provision

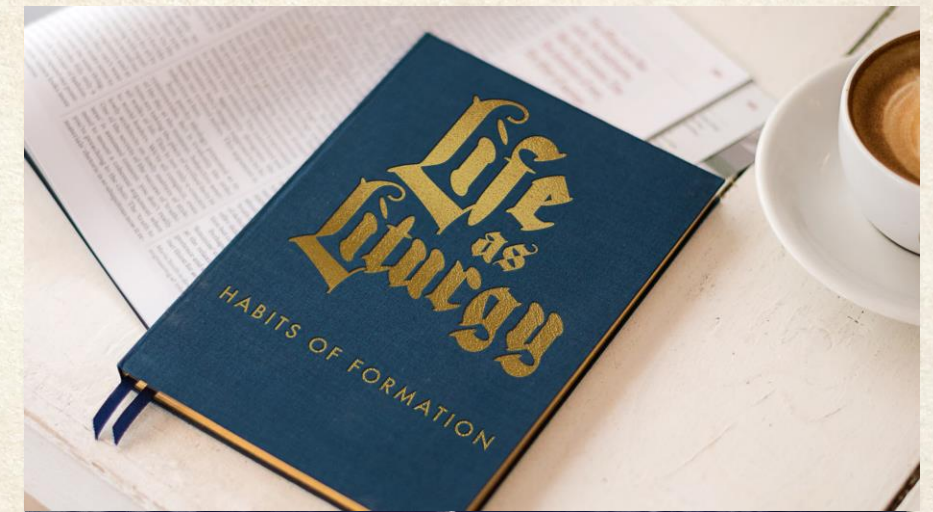
Read **Colossians 3.1-16**. If you are a reflection of your interpretation of life and its events, what reflections do you see in yourself that you realize are not the kinds of reflections that are holy and acceptable to God? What do you need to "put off," and what do you hope to "put on"?

Your Life Mission

Habits are hard to form without others helping. What liturgies are you hoping to begin to develop that you need the help of others with? Ask your Community Group for help, commit to some of these together, or with a couple friends or a spouse.

What conversations are coming up, maybe over Christmas, that you need prayer for, that you would have love, compassion, and boldness to share the Gospel with?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for those in your life that God has brought for you to be an ambassador of His Kingdom. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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