

Transformation is the Heartbeat

Romans 12.1-2

Transformation

- To discern what the will of God is
 - The distracted do not know what the will of God is
 - Religious Distraction (like the Pharisee) or Worldly Distraction
- To do what the will of God is (because it's good, acceptable, and perfect)
 - Moo (p. 757): “[*dokimizo*] the will of God means to understand and agree with what God wants of us with a view to putting it into practice”
 - The deceived do not follow what the will of God is
 - Cowards who cannot find it in them to do what is good, acceptable, and perfect – think it costs them less not to do it even though it costs them more
 - Blind who do not see that it is always right to do what is right (good, acceptable, perfect) – they do not see the beauty in it
- Don't miss this: *God doesn't want us to obey but to transform us so we joyfully and routinely obey* – RENOVATION
 - It's good, acceptable, and perfect – why wouldn't we routinely obey with joy?
 - Transformed people are drawn to the will of God – like noses that smell good cooking

To get there...

Soaked in the Gospel (v.1) – “by the mercies of God”

- Remember that God had mercy on you – you didn't deserve it (PITY)
- Remember that Jesus died for you – you couldn't have paid for it
- Remember that someone shared this news with you – you needed to hear it

Notes and Discussion Questions

1. When you hear the word “renovate,” what comes to mind? What about “transformation?” What similarities do you find? What differences?
2. Reread the Focus Passage (Romans 12.1-2). In the sermon, transformation and the will of God went hand in hand. Why is that? How is that? What personal examples can you think of where that has held true?
3. To discern the will of God and do it are equally important. Which do you struggle more with? Based on the reasons above (because you are distracted or because you are deceived), which do you struggle with the most? Are there reasons that didn't get mentioned?

4. Read Romans 9.14-16 and Romans 5.6-8. These reflect the first two points of being “soaked in the Gospel.” How does it help transformation to remember God’s pity and His love?
5. Who was the person who brought the Good News to you? (Romans 10.14-15). What is the name of one person in your life that we can pray for you to take the Good News to this week?