

SC Church  
4.18.2021

Love Reigns  
Over our Present

**Have you ever been looking for something only to realize you had it all along?**

- 2 Corinthians 5:7 NLT – <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight.

**Big Idea: Make your decisions knowing that the Lord is with you right now!**

**Scripture: Romans 12:1-2 NIV** – Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**How do I step into the reality that the Lord reigns over my present?**

- Offer your life to the Lord every day
  - Romans 12:1 NIV – Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
  - Luke 9:23-24 NLT – If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. <sup>24</sup> If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.
  - Romans 6:13 NLT – <sup>13</sup> Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.
- Resist the temptation to follow the culture and its patterns.
  - Romans 12:2a NIV – <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
  - Colossian 3:5 NLT – <sup>5</sup> So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.
- Allow the Word of God to show you the Way.

- Romans 12:2b NIV - be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
- Ephesians 5:8-9 NLT – <sup>8</sup> For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! <sup>9</sup> For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.

### Questions to Ponder

- Have I offered my life to God? Do I sacrifice anything for Him?
- What patterns in my life aren't honoring to God?
  - What patterns are destructive?
  - Who do I need to allow into my world to navigate these patterns?
- Am I allowing the truth of God into my mind and heart?

### What patterns in my life are hindering the breakthroughs I need this year?

- Step into the reality that the Lord reigns over your present.
  - You overcome because He has overcome. You are strong because
  - He is strong. You have power because He is all powerful.
    - Romans 8:11 NLT – <sup>11</sup> The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

### Next Steps

- Memorize: Romans 12:2
- Evaluate: What current patterns in my life are destructive?
- Action: Replace unhealthy patterns with life giving habits.