MARINERS CHURCH



"No one puts new wine into old wineskins. The old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine must be stored in new wineskins. That way both the wine and the wineskins are preserved." –Jesus (Matthew 9:17, NLT)

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. 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. Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

Conform

"...the pattern of this world."

Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold. Romans 12:2 (Phillips)

Transform

Do not **conform** to the pattern of this world, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NIV)



I urge you, therefore... by the mercies of God...

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners. Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup*

Read Romans 12:1-2. Talk together about what God is trying to tell us.

What is the difference between 'conform' and 'transform'? How does the world try to 'conform' you? How susceptible are you to this?

Read Matthew 9:17. Discuss what you see in this parable. How does it relate to our conforming/transforming?

In Romans 12:1, why does he talk about a living sacrifice? If someone were to ask you what that term meant and what it looks like in life, what would you say?

Someone said, "The problem with a living sacrifice is that it keeps getting up and trying off the altar." How does that relate to your experience in surrendering your life to what God wants?

Please be open to talk about the struggles you have with following Christ in the little details of life.

*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through times like these. For more information, connect with the church office at marinerschurch@marinerscc.org