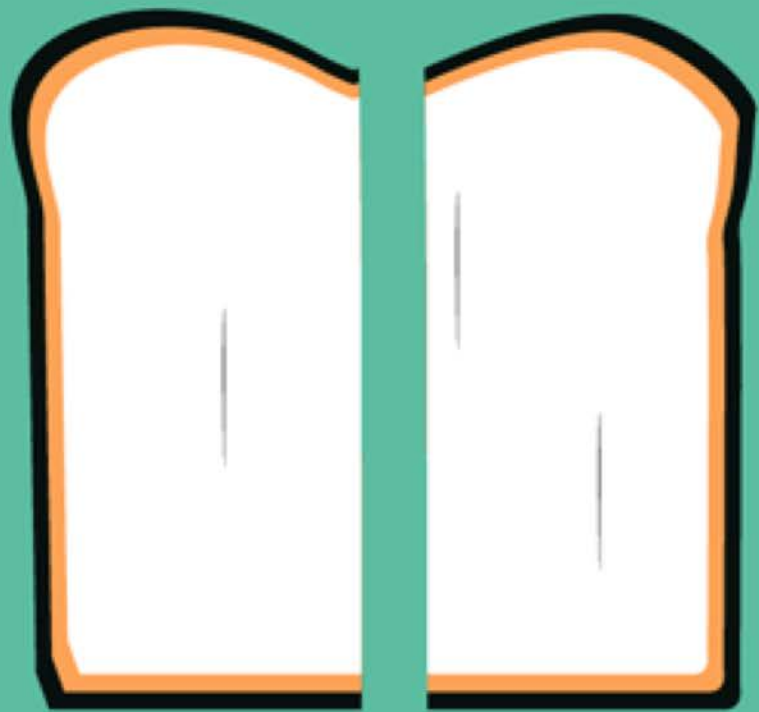


Romans



LIVING IN
COMMUNITY





Post



Ryan Duff 
@ryanduff

Follow



Practice makes perfect. 🐱

I went the ham and cheese route today.



This Week's Sermon

"The Ideal You"

Romans 13:8-14

Romans 12:1-2

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. 2 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.



1. Transformed to Love
2. Transformed View of Time
3. The Ideal Self

Romans 13:8-14

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Leviticus 19:18

18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Matthew 22:34-40

34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. 35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” 37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Commands in Context

1. Pay back what you owe
2. Love one another (those near you)
3. Do no wrong to a neighbor (i.e. love everyone)
4. Wake from sleep
5. Cast of “works of darkness”
6. Put on armor of light
7. Walk properly
8. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ
9. Make no provision for the flesh



What is the gospel?



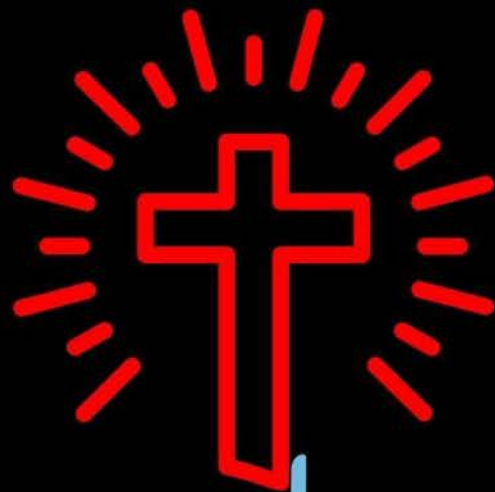
Galatians 5:13-14

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

1. Transformed to Love
2. Transformed View of Time
3. The Ideal Self

Romans 13:8-14

11 And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.



OLD

"the night"
"the darkness"
"present evil age"

NEW

"salvation is near"
"the day is coming"
"walk in light"

“The earlier text encourages Christians to look at the present in light of the past: by virtue of Christ’s death and resurrection, the “old age” has been transcended by a new one. The Christian is to live out the values of that new age, appropriating the power available in the gospel to renew the mind and transform conduct. The text now before us shifts the perspective, encouraging Christians to look at the present in light of the future. For, while transferred by God’s grace into the new realm of righteousness and life, Christians still await full and final salvation (cf. 5:9–10)”

~Douglas J. Moo, “The Epistle to the Romans”

Colossians 3: OLD SELF

5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming. 7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Colossians 3: NEW SELF

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly

1. Transformed to Love
2. Transformed View of Time
3. The Ideal Self

“It is a myth to believe that we will find our authentic self after we have left behind or forgotten one thing or another ... To make ourselves, to shape a form from various elements – that is the task! The task of a sculptor! Of a productive human being!”

~Friedrich Nietzsche



Be
your
best self



- 1. You are the values you embody.*
- 2. You are who you befriend.*
- 3. You are how you use your time.*
- 4. You are how you use your money.*
- 5. You are what you eat.*

~"5 Ways to Become Your Ideal Self"

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/making-change/201512/five-ways-help-become-your-ideal-self>

Radically Re-ordered New Life

14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

What is God doing in us?

Romans 8:29

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Ephesians 3:9b-11

“to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord”

BEFORE CHRIST

works of darkness

self-trust

uncertain identity

running from God

disordered loves

nakedness

lacking purpose

unable to change

AFTER CHRIST

walking in light and truth

faith in Jesus

identity rooted in Christ

running to God

loving God & loving like God

clothed with Christ

renewed

transformed

Two Conversions



“Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours.”

~Augustine, Confessions

“To me, what I knew to be God calling me to himself sounded an awful lot like God calling me to be straight, as if his only intention were to transform me partially. But that was far from the truth. Though God was very concerned with how I lived out my sexuality, he was just as concerned with what I did with my hands and if my fingerprints would be found on anything righteous. He was just as concerned with my mind and how it held hell in it at all times. He cared deeply that I use my mouth in a manner that showed some awareness that he was always listening.”

“Homosexuality might have been my loudest sin, but it was not my only sin. God was not about setting me free from one form of slavery only to leave me enslaved to other idols. By calling me to himself, he was after my whole heart. His intention was to turn it toward him and transform it as only he could, enabling me to be holy in how I expressed my sexuality and everything else. When God saves, he saves holistically. So my repentance would not be singular. That night, I knew that it wasn’t just my lesbianism that had me at odds with God – it was my entire heart.”

~Jackie Hill Perry, <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2018/september/jackie-hill-perry-gay-girl-good-god.html>



G.U.P.A.

Gospel Realities



Utter Dependence on the Holy Spirit



Pathways



Accountability

John 8:12

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2nd Corinthians 4:6

6 For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel Response

Stop Self-Sculpting & Put On Christ

Be Captivated By the Beauty of Christ