

Life Church Message 2011-12-18 - Break Out Of The World's Mold and Into God's.

- **Break Out Of The World's Mold and Into God's. (Romans 12:1-8)**
Pastor Rocklyn Clarke - Sunday December 18, 2011
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- **New Material**
 - **Preparation**
 - **Break Out Of The World's Mold and Into God's. (Romans 12:1-8)**
 - **Preparation - Romans 12:1-8**
 - **Standing Issues**
 - From a word Bishop gave me:
 - Make sure people do something with God's message.
 - Make it plain:
 - Use accessible language.
 - Use modern day parables based on every day occurrences:
 - Sitting at a stop light
 - Driving through a green light
 - Approaching a yellow light
 - Being cut off in traffic
 - Going shopping
 - Going to a mall
 - Going to school; sitting in class
 - Going to work; sitting in your office;
 - Keep it simple.
 - Use illustrations of truth out of my own experience.
 - Impart faith to obey the Word and receive God's promises.
- **Introduction**
 - Welcome to another service at the Hampton Inn & Suites.
 - Welcome Cards -
 - “I want to call your attention to the Welcome Card that you were given on your way into the auditorium”
 - These cards do two things for us:
 - They help us get to know our new visitors better.
 - They also give anyone (visitors or members) a chance to express a need or to give us feedback.
 - By filling it out you will help us to better serve you.
 - We're going to provide time for you to complete the cards at the end of our service, but we encourage you to start filling them out now.
 - **Please use this card:**
 - if you're a **first time visitor** or if you've **never** filled one out

before,

- to tell us about a **decision you made** today,
- to ask us for more information, or to give us **feedback**.

Please include your contact information unless we already have it. At the **end of service** we'll ask you to complete the card and then place it in the designated box or give it to someone from our staff on your way out.

- **Transition**

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- **Read the Passage - Romans 12:1-8**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer 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.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

- **Exegetical Idea**

In view of God's mercy, let God rather than the world shape you so that you will be able to verify his will.

- **What does this mean?**

- If you're at Romans 12, you're still responsible for Romans 3, 5, 8, 11, etc.

Note - scripture involves portions that represent take off, flying the plane, and landing the plane.

- God had been merciful to the gentiles in the Roman church in that they received the gospel early as a result of the disobedience of the Jews.

He had been merciful the Jews in the Roman church in that they were a remnant chosen by grace.

- Let God shape you:
 - Offer your bodies as living sacrifices - a lifetime of obedience.
 - Obedience is the most important form of worship. - 1Sam 15
 - Don't conform to the world - don't let it press you into its mold.
 - Renewing your mind (see Rom. 8) will transform you.
 - This will enable you to test (approve, verify, confirm) God's will.
- **What difference does it make? So What?**
 - Introduce the homiletical idea.
- **Homiletical Idea:**
 - Break out of the world's mold and into God's.
- **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**
 - Surrender to God.
 - Bathe your thoughts in his.
 - Prove God's will for your life.
 - Make your gifts available to the church.
- **Surrender to God.**
 - God has been merciful to you - don't get it twisted!
 - Whoever wants to save his life will lose it! - **Mark 8:27-38**
 - To obey is better than sacrifice. - 1Sam 15
- **Bathe your thoughts in his.**
 - What is the “pattern of this world”?
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 - You will either be shaped by the world or by God. There is no third alternative.
 - The key to transformation is your mind - renew it in God's presence.
 - Talk to him.
 - Read his Word. Read it over and over again (like I do).
 - Talk about God with others.
- **Prove God's will for your life.**

- Refusing to believe the truth leads to delusion. - Isa 29:1-16; **2Thes 2:9-12**
- Test your thoughts and ideas against God's Word (details and patterns).
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- **Make your gifts available to the church.**
 - All of this has implications for how we function in the body of Christ.
 - Our Mission:
 - Our mission is to teach people to enjoy knowing Jesus without fear, inadequacy, guilt, or shame, to follow him together as his family, **to function together as his body**, and to work together to expand his kingdom.
 - The world tends towards self-promotion; in the church we think of ourselves soberly.
 - The world tries to save its life; in the church we give ours away.
 - We are one body and we belong to each other.
 - You have a gift to offer to others:
 - “Lord - how do you want me bless this person today?”
 - Rivers of living water are flowing out of you. - John 7:37-39
 - We’re developing a lifestyle of planting biblical communities and all of our members are potential planters.
 - Don't wait for your "designer prophecy"!

Hi Rock,

As always, I enjoyed our conversation as well! Here is the fake official prophetic word that is so prevalent in the body of Christ.

*"I hear the Lord saying, this is your **season** to step into your **destiny** and receive a **double portion**. It's time for you to start **living in the overflow** and experience true **breakthrough**. The **new anointing** that is upon you is an **apostolic/prophetic anointing**, and will produce a **fresh outpouring** of the Spirit everywhere you go. This **new level** is coming from an **open heaven** which will give you an **impartment** and a **mantle** to carry out your assignment. You will provide a **spiritual covering** to those under you, and they will receive the **latter rain**. The **shift***

*you are experiencing comes from God's **favor** on your life and will create an **atmosphere** for **miracles, abundance,** and will bring forth a **financial harvest**, just claim this for yourself and **sow a seed faith offering** into this ministry and receive it, says the Lord...Eekamushundah, SheaButter."*

Blessings,
Michael Dottin

- **Conclusion**
 - Surrender to God.
 - Bathe your thoughts in his.
 - Prove God's will for your life.
 - Make your gifts available to the church.
 - Break out of the world's mold and into God's.
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- **Altar Call / Welcome Cards / Communion ?**
 - Welcome Cards - refer to script
 - We're almost ready to close this portion of our service, but first we want to give you a chance to respond to what you've heard.
 - Earlier in the service we mentioned the welcome cards and we encouraged you to begin filling them out.
 - Right now we want you to complete your welcome card. We especially want you to use this card if:
 - if you're a first time visitor
 - if you've never filled one out before,
 - if you want to tell us about a decision you made today,
 - if you want to ask us for more information, or to give us feedback.
 - Please be sure to include your up to date contact information unless we already have it.
- **MC & Worship Team continue with tithes, offerings, and worship**

- **Benediction - Numbers 6:24-26**

““The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.””

- **Men's Prayer**

- **Life Group Material**

- **Life Group Word Material**

These are sample discussion questions / topics. Your life group leaders may choose to adjust these questions, substitute new ones, or spend the Word section of the meeting in a different way altogether.

Scripture taken from the [HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION \(NIV\)](#). Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 [International Bible Society](#). Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.

- **Romans 12:1-8**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer 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.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

- **Discussion Questions / Topics:**

- Are you offering your body as a living sacrifice? Discuss.
- In what ways are you conformed to the pattern of this world?
- In what ways are you renewing your mind?
- In what ways have you been transformed?
- Describe your experience of testing and approving what God's will is.

- **Mark 8:27-38**

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, “Who do people say I am?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.”

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Peter answered, “You are the Christ.”

Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.”

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: **“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.** What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

- **Discussion Questions / Topics:**
 - Are you saving your life or losing it? Discuss.

- **Scriptures For 12/18/2011 Life Church Sermon**

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Romans 11:1-24

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah — how he appealed to God against Israel: "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me"? And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

What then? What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. The others were hardened, as it is written: "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes so that they could not see and ears so that they could not hear, to this very day." And David says: "May their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them. May their eyes be darkened so they cannot see, and their backs be bent forever."

Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring!

I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.

Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off. And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

Romans 11:25-36

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.”

As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, for God’s gifts and his call are irrevocable. Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God’s mercy to you. For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all. Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?” For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 12:1-8

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2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. **For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion** so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.