

SERMON OUTLINE

12th February 2012

Theme: ***Commitment Month: Commitment to our church community***

Readings: ***Acts 2: 42 - 47; Romans 12: 1 - 8; John 14: 15 - 24***

In our reading from **Romans**, Paul discusses the theme of commitment in terms of offering ourselves as a living sacrifice to God and taking our place as a functioning member of Christ's body, the Church. Perhaps we need to grasp the truth that our commitment to follow Jesus requires us to do both.

In offering ourselves as *a living sacrifice* we must:

(i) **be willing to "let God transform (us)...by changing the way (we) think" (12: 2)**

(ii) **"be honest in (our) evaluation of (ourselves)" (12: 3)**

In taking our place as *a functioning member of Christ's body*, the Church we must:

(iii) **recognize "we all belong to each other" (12: 5)**

(iv) recognize and utilize our God-given gifts (12: 6- 8)

For Reflection/Discussion

1. What aspects of my "thinking" needs to be changed in order that I might offer myself as a living sacrifice to God and take my place as a functioning member of Christ's church?
2. What are the gifts God has given me? In what ways can I use those gifts to serve God and people?