

# **Outside the Box Christianity**

"Outside the Box Living"

Romans 12:1-2

## **Sermon Series Summary**

Have you ever wanted to take your faith to the next level? Have you ever wanted to grow more in faithfulness in the New Year than the year before? If you are an individual that has a desire to continue to grow as a Christian then this series has so much to teach you as you learn about Paul's recipe for success also known as "Christianity Outside the Box." Join us in growing in faithfulness to the Lord as we study through Romans 12 together.

## **Series Theme Passage**

**Romans 12:1** – I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

#### **Main Text**

**Romans 12:1-2** (ESV) **–** <sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

#### Big Idea - Outside the Box Living Requires a Transformed Life Not a Conformed Life

#### Three Steps to Living Life Outside the Box

#### Step #1 - Outside the Box Living Requires a New Vision of Sacrifice, Service, and Surrender

**Romans 12:1** (ESV) – <sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

■ **Key Point** – The first step that we examine addresses the vision of the Christian life. It is within this verse that the pursuit of the Glory of God is directly laid out in practical steps for the Christian life from "Presenting your life as a living sacrifice to the Attitude of your heart in the area of worship."

#### Step #2 - Outside the Box Living Requires Transformed Thinking

Romans 12:2<sup>a</sup> (ESV) -<sup>2a</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...

■ **Key Point** – The second step that we examine is discovered in the first section of verse 2 as we observe the importance of the transformed life in the area of "thinking." The principle that is presented declares that a "transformed life" requires a "transformed mind" that is being renewed through the Word of God on a daily basis.

#### Step #3 – Outside the Box Living Requires Righteous Discernment and Action

Romans 12:2<sup>b</sup> (ESV) – <sup>2b</sup>that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

■ **Key Point** – The third step that we examine is discovered in the last section of verse 2 as we observe the importance of discernment leading to transformed action. This results in displaying the right "fruit of righteousness" in life.

### Challenge:

Remind yourself that your responsibility, before the Lord, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have discovered in the presentation of the Word of God. As you reflect on this message, put your faith into action and ask yourself this question,

How is God's Word actively transforming my life?