

Outside the Box Christianity

"Outside the Box Thinking"

Romans 12:3-8

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 12:3-8 (ESV) **–** ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us,

let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Big Idea – Outside the Box Living Requires Right Thinking in a World Gone Wrong

Three Truths About Right Thinking in a Wrong World

Truth #1 - Right Thinking Requires a Transition from Super Thought to Sober Thought

Romans 12:3 (ESV) – ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

■ **Key Point** – The first truth that we examine addresses the area of pride versus humble reality. As a Christian, you must not think to highly of yourself but always see the world from a Biblical worldview where Christ is King and Savior.

Truth #2 - Right Thinking Reveals Your Unique Relationship to the Body of Christ

Romans 12:4-5 (ESV) **-** ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

■ **Key Point** – The second truth that we examine deals with understanding your identity in Christ. Your relationship with Christ unites you with other Christians all over the world in one pursuit and one passion.

Truth #3 - Right Thinking Compels Each Christian to Carry Out Right Action

Romans 12:6-8 (ESV) **–** ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

■ **Key Point** – The final truth that we examine compels each Christian to carry out the right action in life. You have been given an amazing gift from the Lord so use your talent to glory God in all areas of life.

Memory Verse

Philippians 4:8 (HCSB) – Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

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 transforming the way you think about life?