

More Than Words: **WORSHIP IS SURRENDER**

July 4 & 5, 2026

All Bible passages are quoted from the New International Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

Romans 12:1-2 | ¹ 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.

God's mercy received → a life surrendered in worship

1. Worship begins with RESPONSE. (v.1)

2. Worship is a DAILY offering. (v.1)

3. Worship transforms how we THINK. (v.2)

Sacred Pathways - Ways to Connect with God

Contemplatives

- Connect with God through intimacy and adoration.
- Journaling, prayer, sitting quietly with God.

Intellectuals

- Connect with God through study and understanding.
- Scripture study, learning, theology.

Ascetics

- Connect with God through simplicity and solitude.
- Fasting, silence, removing distraction.

Live it out: Surrender one area of your life to God this week.

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Further Study & Discussion Questions

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2

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Additional Reading: Luke 9:23

Luke 9:23 | Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Getting Started:

1. When you hear the word worship, what comes to mind?
2. This week we talked about how worship is more than music. **Romans 12** reminds us that worship begins with responding to God's mercy and surrendering our lives to Him.

Discuss:

1. Paul says, "in view of God's mercy." Why is it important that worship starts with what God has done rather than what we do?
2. Jesus tells His followers to "take up their cross daily." What does daily surrender look like in real life?
3. **Romans 12** talks about renewing our minds. What are some things that compete for your attention and shape your thinking throughout the week?
4. Which of these pathways do you most relate to:
 - Contemplative (prayer, reflection)
 - Intellectual (study, learning)
 - Ascetic (simplicity, solitude)

Live It Out:

This week, choose one area of your life to surrender more fully to God.

Consider:

- Replacing 10 minutes of distraction with Scripture
- Writing down one truth from God's Word each day
- Identifying one area you've been holding onto and surrendering it in prayer