1 - **Keys to transformed living in Christ**
**Romans Chapter 12**

2 - **The call to be living sacrifices** (Romans 12:1-2)

1. By not being **“conformed to this world”**.
	* **Rejection** of the pattern and standards of the world and a **refusal to embrace** or **assimilate** to it. (cf., Titus 2:12; Galatians 1:4)
2. By being **“transformed by the renewing of your mind”**.
	* **Daily inner change** to conform to God’s spiritual direction and guidance. (2 Corinthians 4:16)

3 - **Fulfilling our role in the body** (vs. 3-8)

* **God’s revelation is His grace!**
* **Based in humility.** (1 Peter 3:8; 5:5; Ephesians 4:1-2; 1 Timothy 1:15)
* **Focused on the body of Christ** (and its’ mission) and our **fellow members**. (1 Corinthians 12:14ff; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 2:3-5; Colossians 1:18-19)
* **We use our “gifts” to serve the body** and our fellow members. (Matthew 25:14-30)

4 - **Genuine love** (vs. 9)

* **“Agape” -** more than an emotion, it’s an exercise of the human will that seeks the best interest of one we choose to bestow it on. It’s defined by, and in, God. God is (His essence) love! (1 John 4:7-21)
* **“Unfeigned love” - “agape” - (1 Peter 1:22)** Translating “fraternal affection” into sincere sacrificial action.
* **A “learned”, obedient love**. (1 Thessalonians 4:9; Titus 2:4)
* **The “new” commandment** (John 13:34**;** how so?**)** that governs all of our interactions. (1 Corinthians 16:14)

5 - **Abhorrence of evil/Clinging to Good** (vs. 9)

* **Understanding what sin does (Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 6:23),** wemust choose to **abhor (utterly detest) it!**
* In addition, must **“cling”** or **“cleave” to what is good.** From the **same word** for **marriage (Matthew 19:5; Acts 9:26; Psalms 119:31)**
* Through **continual growth**. (2 Peter 1:5-10; Ephesians 4:12)

6 - **Devotion to our brethren** (vs. 10, 13, 16)

* **Brethren come first! Before…? Anything but the Lord.**
* **Understanding and applying “preference”.** (Outdo in showing honor. Take the lead in showing respect.)
* **Addressing needs.** (Acts 2:45; 4:34-35; Ephesians 5:28-29)
* **Practicing hospitality… without complaint.** (1 Peter 4:9)
* **Of the same mind… (1 Corinthians 1:10)**

7 - **Diligent service** (vs. 11)

* **Not half hearted**
	+ Not **“lagging behind in diligence”.** Energetic because we are engaged and focusedand understand the urgency of our spiritual work. (Matthew 25:26; Philippians 3:1, “no trouble”)
* **Zealous for good works**
	+ **“Fervent in spirit”.** To be hot, boiling with heat. (Acts 18:25)
* **Joy of service**
* Is it a pleasure to worship and serve the Lord?

8 - **Loving Those who oppose us** (vs. 14, 17-20)

* **Bless the persecutors. Seek their spiritual well-being, that they might understand - and turn from - the error of their ways.**(2 Timothy 2:24-26)
* **No place for revenge. God will administer justice due.**(2 Thessalonians 1:5-12)
* **That’s what Jesus did for us!** (Romans 5:6-11)

9 - **Overcome evil with Good** (vs. 21)

* **How we overcome temptation every day.**
* **In the context of dealing with those who oppose us.**
* **The greater the challenge the more good we need to seek.**