

DISCUSSION GUIDE
Centripetal Faith: Part 7 – Witness

Text: Romans 12

Warming Up

1. A chicken and a pig walk into a restaurant. They have no money but are hungry. They ask the owner what they can do to get meal. The says, Our special today is ham and eggs. We'll help you out if you help; us out. The chicken says, "Deal!" The pig looks at the chicken and says, "No way! You only have to make a contribution. I have to make a total commitment!"
2. Name something you've contributed to. Name something you've committed to.

Digging In

Read Romans 12:1-2

1. Pastor Craig noted that this chapter has its roots in the Two Greatest Commandments; Love God and love your neighbor. What does it mean to love God?
2. What sacrifice does God desire? Read Psalm 51:16-17
3. What patterns of this world prevent us from knowing God's will? What is God's will?

Read Romans 12:3-13

1. Paul encourages the use of gifts and talents as a way to show humility. How do you share who you are with others?
2. If we are to hate what is evil and cling to what is good, how do we know the difference?
3. IF we are fully engaged in God's mission being a witness to God's transformation in us, how should we treat each other? Is that hard at times? Why or why not?

Read Romans 12:14-21

1. How do you respond to someone who is threatening? Have you ever threatened someone and how did that person respond?
2. Pastor Craig quoted the axiom *Hurt people hurt people*. What did he mean by that? Have you ever been hurt? Did you want to do good to the person who hurt you?
3. Paul quotes Proverbs 25:21-22. How can we do that?
4. Pastor Craig said that the cross makes all the difference. He quoted Romans 5:10 "...when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son..." How can the church be a better witness of God's love and grace so we can offer hope to a hurting world?

Sending Out

We live a world of hurting people who hurt other people. By not seeking revenge, by not rejoicing over another's problems, and by offering hope to those we think deserve it the least we are God's witnesses to hope and love.

Closing

Make the sacrifice of yourself! Love each other! Love those who least deserve it! That's what God does!

Close in Prayer