

Special Focus

“A Mature Faith in a Wonky World”

Romans 12:1-3, 9-18

Presented by
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November 22, 2020

- Living a mature faith requires thought and sacrifice.
 - Thought precedes and gives meaning to our sacrifice.
- Living a mature faith can be emotional.
 - The more personal and intense the situation feels, the more likely we are to ... spew!
- Living a mature faith requires benchmarks.
 - Paul asks eight questions (Romans 12:19 – 15:1):
 1. Do you tend to seek vengeance on those who have wronged you? (12:19)
Would others call you gracious?
 2. Do you struggle to honor governing authorities? (13:1)
Would others call you submissive?
 3. Do you sacrificially serve others? (13:8)
Would others call you faithful?
 4. Do you live with an alert awareness that Christ could return at any moment? (13:11)
Would others call you worldly?

5. Do you accept and bless those who don't have the same convictions as you do in secondary matters? (14:1)
Would others call you mature?
 6. Do you avoid stumbling others by restricting your own personal freedoms? (14:13)
Would others call you sacrificial?
 7. Do you have a clear conscience over what you approve?
Would others call you double minded?
 8. Do you take time to lift up those who are struggling in the faith?
Would others call you patient?
- Living a mature faith starts at home!
 - We must consider how to lift up the addicted brother, walk alongside the restrictive brother, and encourage the conflicted brother.
 - Your ability to minister is tied to whatever you declare is ultimate.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. What is God asking you to do today?