

Wellspring Purpose and Disciplines:

## D3 – Ministry: The Believer’s Unnatural Mode of Operation (Romans 12)

The manner of living that God desires for His people is \_\_\_\_\_ to our  
\_\_\_\_\_ inclinations.

I. The Starting Point (12:1, 2) - An unnatural starting point

A. Mercies of God:

1. Motivate us to \_\_\_\_\_ our bodies as a living sacrifice.
2. Reorient our purpose in life.

B. Conformed vs. Transformed

1. Conformed

*"We read that Cain 'went out from the presence of Jehovah and built a city' (Gen 4), which became filled with inventions - 'progress': music, arts; its whole end being to forget God—to get along without Him. And ever since, Satan has developed this fatal world order, with its philosophy, (man's account of all things—but changing from time to time); its science (ever seeming to eliminate the supernatural); its government (with man exalting himself); its amusements (adapted to blot out realities from the mind); and its religion (to soothe man's conscience and allay fears of judgment)." William Newell*

2. Transformed

3. God's will is: \_\_\_\_\_ for us  
acceptable to \_\_\_\_\_  
perfect and \_\_\_\_\_ to our \_\_\_\_\_.

II. Gifts of Grace (12:3-8) - An unnatural way of thinking about our abilities

A. Paul's first exhortation:

Think about yourself \_\_\_\_\_. (Humbly and with \_\_\_\_\_  
judgment.) Rejoice in the truth that God has given each of us \_\_\_\_\_ that  
is appropriate to the gift given to us.

B. Body Illustration

C. Spiritual Gifts

(2 Corinthians 12, 1 Peter 4, Ephesians 4, Matthew 25)

1. Descriptions

2. Discerning what has been given to me

*“Riches and natural eloquence are gifts, as well as the miraculous ability to speak languages not previously learned. Christians then should consider everything they possess as a gift bestowed by God, which they should cultivate and use to His glory, and for which they are accountable. If a Christian misspent his money, his time and his abilities, his influence, or any talent which God has conferred on him, he is not misspending his own, but is misspending what is entrusted to him by God.” Robert Haldane*

III. The Good Works God Prepared For Us To Walk In (12:9-21) - An unnatural way of loving

A. Love (vs 9)

B. Honor (vs 10)

- C. Diligent Fervent Service (vs 11)
- D. Be Joyful, Patient, Devoted (vs 12)
- E. Beneficent Stewardship (vs 13)
- F. Wish the best for persecutors (vs 14)
- G. Genuinely rejoice and weep (vs 15)
- H. Associate humbly with ALL believers (vs 16)
- I. Do what is good in response to evil (vs 17)
- J. Be at peace with all (vs 18)
- K. Never take revenge (vs 19)
- L. Treat your enemies well (vs 20)
- M. Overwhelm evil with goodness (vs 21)