

## Place Your Life Before God (Romans 12)

1-2 So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

3 I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

4-6 In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

6-8 If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face.

9-10 Love from the centre of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

11-13 Don't burn out; keep yourselves fuelled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

14-16 Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

17-19 Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

20-21 Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

# SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Felpham Methodist Church

Felpham Way, Felpham, PO22 8QL

Office: 01243 855610

**Knowing Jesus, Sharing God's Love**

We extend a very warm welcome to everyone joining us to worship God this morning, especially if you are a visitor.

Greeting you at the doors this morning are Hilary and Alan Bower.

Below are the details of today's meetings:

**9:45am Prayer Group:** Meet in the Prayer Room.

**10:30am Morning Worship:** Led by Mrs Joyce Stroud.

**6:30pm JAFFA:** Meet in the Coffee Lounge.

**8:00pm Prayer & Praise:** Led by Rev'd Andy Lowe.

During our morning service, the children will leave us to meet in the halls. We have crèche facilities for children up to 4 years old, Junior Church for children aged 4 to 11 and Breakfast Club for 12+.

After this morning's service we will meet for coffee and fellowship in the small hall, please join us.

Meetings for next Sunday (17<sup>th</sup> July):

**9:45am Prayer Group:** Meet in the Prayer Room.

**10:30am Holy Communion:** Led by Rev'd Andy Lowe.

**10:30am Family Celebration:** Meet in the Large Hall.

**4:00pm Essential 100**

**8:00pm JAFFA:** Trip to St. Peter's, Brighton.

**Minister:** Rev'd Andy Lowe, 4 Roundle Avenue, Felpham, PO22 8LQ  
01243 583523, [andrew.lowe@methodist.org.uk](mailto:andrew.lowe@methodist.org.uk)



**Monday:**

1:30pm Toddler Group  
8:00pm Everywoman AGM

**Tuesday:**

12:00pm S and S Lunch  
7:30pm Soul Ignition Planning

**Wednesday:**

9:30am Holy Communion  
12:30pm Teddy Bear Service  
8:00pm House Group

**Thursday:**

6:00pm Rocky Road

**Friday:**

1:30pm Toddler Group

**Saturday:**

7:30pm U-Turn Sleepover

**Flowers:**

Thank you to Joy and Tony Winch for donating the beautiful flowers which decorate our Church today.

**Prayers:**

There is a prayer book in the Welcome Room, so please enter your Prayer requests for thanks and concerns for others. These requests will be included in our Worship throughout the week. Please note: You can also enter Prayer Requests on our website: [www.felpham-methodist-church.org.uk/prayers.html](http://www.felpham-methodist-church.org.uk/prayers.html)

**Weekly Notices:**

We are now offering the facility to have an electronic copy of the weekly Notices emailed directly to you. Please email [benlander81@o2.co.uk](mailto:benlander81@o2.co.uk) if you would like to receive these. The Notices will also be available on the Church website.

**Children and Family Worker/Notices:**

Ben Lander- Tel: 07707 391872. Email: [benlander81@o2.co.uk](mailto:benlander81@o2.co.uk)  
Notices for next week by 17:00 on Tuesday at the latest please.  
Note: They will appear on the Church website.

**Scripture Union**

Thanks to everyone who has already offered their help with the many tasks required for this year's Mission. There is still time (just) to register to help us out with any of the different age groups and as mentioned last week, we still desperately need help in the Kitchen during the week! We also still need offers of 'cake makers' to provide for the coffee shop we will be running daily at the College.

**Speak to Pam, Gill or Ben for any more info or to offer your help ☺**

**Prayer**

You are invited to go along and pray for this years Scripture Union Felpham Holiday Special Mission in the 'Beehive, William Street, Bognor Regis on Thursday 14th July at 7.30pm. Joan Knight

**Urgently Required- Kitchen Roll Cardboard Tubes**

Please, if you have any cardboard tubes from kitchen rolls we urgently need them for a craft activity at the mission. Please bring them in for the attention of Gill Wilkinson. Many thanks.

**Songs of Praise from around the World**

Sunday 17th July at 5pm. You are invited to join in singing your favourite hymns and songs of worship from around the world, led by Organist Duncan Hanner. Bognor Regis Methodist Church

**Update from Kate**

I am now back from Manchester and will be in Felpham over the summer, helping out at the Mission and going to Greenbelt. In September I will be going to Greenwich University to study Youth and Community Work. Kate