

DON'T **COPY** THE BEHAVIOR AND CUSTOMS OF THIS WORLD, BUT LET GOD **TRANSFORM** YOU INTO A NEW PERSON BY **CHANGING** THE WAY YOU **THINK**. THEN YOU WILL LEARN TO **KNOW** GOD'S WILL FOR YOU, WHICH IS **GOOD** AND **PLEASING** AND **PERFECT**.

EP 3

ROMANS 12:2

COPY
TRANSFORM
CHANGING
THINK

When Paul wrote to Roman Christians back around A.D. 57, Rome was a sprawling, cosmopolitan city where believers were bombarded non-stop with pagan influences. It must have been hard for Paul's readers to focus on growing in Christ when they were literally surrounded by temptations to compromise.

So, in his letter, Paul walks his readers through what they already know: That because of sin they justly deserve eternal separation from God. That they can't make things right on their own—only Jesus' sacrifice can bring forgiveness. That on the other side of God's forgiveness is a life of liberation from sin, a life that Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) alike can enjoy in Jesus.

But that life required more than following a new set of rules. It required *transformation*, letting God change the thoughts and values that drive behavior. God was looking for more than right behavior from His children—He was after their hearts.

True then. Just as true now.

It's tough standing against the push of culture, to do what God wants when everyone else is heading another direction. It's tough for you and for each person in your family.

So it's such a blessing that you can support the children in your family when they make decisions that put them in conflict with their culture. And what a blessing for those kids when they see you refuse to cut corners, make compromises, or walk away from what you know is right!

But notice what comes as a result of that faithfulness: discovering God's will for you and your family—a will that is good and pleasing and perfect.

Know that your friends at RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW pray for you as you model your faith for others in your family. We're here for you—RIGHT HERE and RIGHT NOW!