

The background features soft, layered watercolor washes in shades of light green, pale blue, and pink. A central rectangular box with a thin black border contains the text. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font, arranged in two lines.

**PRAYER
MINISTRY**

Does the Bible teach that
we can lose salvation?

TACKLING TOUGH QUESTIONS

....And does it teach that we have
free will to believe and follow Christ?
November 17th at 6 pm

**Transformed to be
Living Sacrifices for
the Kingdom**

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV₂₀₁₁) ¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Our response to worship as living sacrifices is not made in a vacuum, but in light of the incredible mercy we've received from Jesus' finished work.

As your mind is being renewed by the Spirit, you'll then discern God's perfect will for your life.

We can't effectively serve in God's Kingdom if our mind is not being renewed and conformed into the image of Christ.

Are you being conformed into the image of our culture or into the image of Jesus Christ?

Romans 12:3-5 (NKJV) ³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. ⁴ For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

Following Christ requires Godly humility and knowing that without Him, we can do nothing. Our gifts and abilities come from Him and since we're bought at a great price, we are called to follow His will.

It feels unnatural in our individualistic culture to see members of the Body of Christ as our everlasting family. Yet, we are so much more effective, when we deeply love and serve together.

Do you consider believers as truly brothers and sisters?

Romans 12:6-8 (NASB₁₉₉₅) ⁶ Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; ⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

We are not given the same abilities and gifts. We are not to envy one another, but humbly serve the Lord with our gifts.

As with service, all are to exhort, give, lead, and show mercy, but many receive a greater measure of these gifts for a greater level of service.

Prophecy works in tandem with those discerning spirits. 'Diakonian' can mean service or ministry of which we all are called to do, but some to a greater measure. Teaching is important for discipleship.

How has God called you to serve in His Kingdom?