

Introduction: My r12 Journey

- The sweet taste of grace
- The bitter taste of religion
- The false hope of success
- The joy of a new life
- The misery of a schizophrenic Christian

◆ **The Fundamental Question: “What is True Spirituality?”**

How do we move beyond religion, church programs, legalism, performance orientation and compartmentalized lives to a grace-filled, authentic relationship with Christ?

1. True Spirituality begins with an accurate _____ of God.

- *“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.”* 1 John 3:1 (NIV)
- *⁸“ . . . your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. ⁹This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, . . .’”* Matthew 6:8-9 (NIV)
- God’s dream for all of His children is to make us like _____ .
2 Corinthians 3:18, Romans 8:29, 1 John 3:1-2

2. True Spirituality is built on the _____ of relationship.

- *³⁷“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”* Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)
- True Spirituality is loving God and loving people 24/7 from the heart.

3. Romans 12 provides us with a relational, grace-based _____ of True Spirituality.

• **5 Key Relationships → r12 Biblical Responses**

1. Relationship with God → Surrender to God

Romans 12:1 “... *in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.*”

2. Relationship with the world → Separate from the world’s values

Romans 12:2 “... *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind . . .*”

3. Relationship with yourself → Sober in self-assessment

Romans 12:3-8 “... *Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment . . .*”

4. Relationship with believers → Serving in love

Romans 12:9-13 “... *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves . . .*”

5. Relationship with nonbelievers → Supernaturally responding to evil with good

Romans 12:14-21 “... *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good . . .*”

- **Warning** – r12 is not a “try hard” moral code to live up to but a faith response to what God has already done for us.
 - Romans 1- 3: **SIN** – Our problem that separates us from God.
 - Romans 4- 5: **SALVATION** – God’s solution in the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.
 - Romans 6- 8: **SANCTIFICATION** – Living your new life in God’s power and growing progressively in Christ-likeness.
 - Romans 9- 11: **SOVEREIGNTY**– Living in confidence because God is in control and keeps all His promises.

◆ **A Life-Changing Invitation**

1. Would you like to receive all your Heavenly Father has prepared for you?
2. Would you like to experience true spirituality; the love and freedom Christ purchased for you?
3. Are you willing to commit the next 6 weeks and join us on the r12 journey?