## Wednesday Night Bible Study Plymouth First Baptist Church October 20, 2021

## **Renewed Thinking About Church Life**

Romans 12:1-5

The new, transformed mind of the Christian, renewed by the Word of God, will result in a changed life no longer conformed to the World- but to Christ- The faithful Christian becomes a "living sacrifice."

Our life of sacrifice should happen in all facets of life, including church life. We are to not think of ourselves too highly but rather, serve those around us for the cause of Christ.

Romans 12: 6-8. We are to serve others with our gifts- which we have received from the Lord.

We are to use them faithfully, cheerfully, diligently, and generously!

Therefore, meeting with other believers in person is vital to a Christians overall health and their overall service to Christ. (see other spiritual gift lists: 1 Cor. 12:12-26; Eph. 4:11).

Through the ages, God's people met- for the same reasons we meet today. to hear God's Word, to pray together and to sing praises. To enjoy the fellowship!

Acts 4:32-35

- "One in heart and mind": How can this happen?
- "No one claimed their possessions were their own."- Who's Were they?
- "Shared everything they had." - as needed. The Jerusalem Church at this time could meet openly, but to be a follower of Christ cost them relationships and income. In identifying with Christ, they opened themselves up to persecution. This church in Jerusalem was persecuted and scattered. (Acts 8). Remember, they are living among the same people who crucified Jesus. This may happen increasingly in our society.
-Great power displayed in the teaching- God's grace powerfully at work in them all.
Why do you think this was the case for that early church?

What are reasons a Christian may hold back from serving Christ and the Church?

How can we overcome this in our own life?