## **GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**

# **PRAY**TOGETHER

Invite a member of your group to open in prayer.

# **OPEN**DISCUSSION

Share a time you "drifted" without meaning to (like the snorkeling story). What tipped you off – and how did you get back on course?

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#### 1) "By the mercies of God" (Romans 12:1)

Read Romans 12:1. In the sermon, we moved from doctrine to devotion: our motive is God's multiplied mercies. Which of God's "mercies" (adopted, forgiven, empowered, etc.) most stir your heart right now, and how do they help fuel a daily "living sacrifice"?

#### 2) "Do not be conformed...be transformed" (Romans 12:2)

Read Romans 12:2. We heard that the world tries to "force us into its mold." Share about a time in your life when you felt that pressure most: maybe regarding politics, cynicism, hurry, or comparison?

#### 3) "Overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:9-21)

Read Romans 12:9-21 slowly. Which command hits home for you in this season: sincere love, hospitality, blessing persecutors, patience in affliction, rejoicing/mourning with others? Why that one, and what would initial or continued obedience in that direction look like in your life this week?

### 4) From Presentation to Consecration

We were reminded that holiness is being "set apart" – like the toothbrush that is for one person alone. What is one area you've kept off the altar: time, finances, politics, habits, relationships? Why do you think you've been hesitant to offer this vital area of your life to God?

## 5) Distraction vs. Devotion

We were presented with the thought that "sometimes the enemy's best strategy is not destruction, but distraction." What most distracts you right now: social media, busyness, people-pleasing? What small, repeatable practice can you adopt this week to keep your focus on Jesus?

## 6) No "Strategic Incompetence"

We were challenged to stop pretending we "can't" read, pray, give, or serve. Which one will we attempt like "Evil Knievel" – not to be perfect, but to make the attempt? Name the time, place, and plan (e.g., 10 minutes in Romans each morning; pray with a coworker; give first; sign up to practice hospitality).