

# MINING THE MESSAGE



<i>Title</i>	LIFE: Thinking as a Member
<i>Scripture</i>	Romans 12:1–8
<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Jeff Terrell</i>
<i>Big Idea</i>	The theology of Romans 1–11 spills over into the application of life beginning with thinking as a member.

## OUTLINE

### 1. Root Your Thinking in Truth (1–2)

#### Gospel-Driven Worship

1. Paul says our response to the “mercies of God” is to offer our whole lives as a living sacrifice. How does Romans 1:18–3:23 and 5:6–11 deepen your understanding of what those mercies actually are?
2. In what ways can “living sacrifice” become reduced to occasional religious activity instead of a whole-life response? What would it look like for your daily routines to reflect true worship?

#### Transformation vs Conformity

1. Read Romans 12:2 alongside Ephesians 2:1–3. What are some subtle ways the “present age” shapes our thinking without us noticing?
2. What does it practically look like to “test and discern” God’s will through Scripture rather than relying on feelings, culture, or personal preference?

### 2. Reinforce Your Thinking in Training (3)

#### Sober Judgment and Identity

1. Paul warns against thinking too highly or too low of ourselves. How does the gospel (Ephesians 2:1–10) correct both pride and insecurity at the same time?
2. Why do you think it is often easier to drift into either pride or discouragement instead of maintaining “sober judgment”?

#### Consistency in Spiritual Training

1. Read 1 Timothy 4:7–8. How is spiritual training similar to physical training, and where does the comparison break down?
2. What habits or rhythms have most shaped your thinking over time? Which ones are forming you more according to the world than the Word?

### 3. Reframe Your Thinking in Togetherness (4–5)

#### Identity in the Body

1. According to 1 Corinthians 12:12–27, what is lost when a Christian views their faith as primarily individual rather than connected to the body?
2. How does remembering “we are members of one another” challenge the way we handle conflict, preferences, or unmet expectations in the church?

#### Gospel-Centered Community

1. Read Colossians 3:12–15. What does it look like to apply the gospel when you experience the “sharp edges” of others in the church?
2. How can personal preferences (music, teaching style, roles, etc.) subtly compete with a commitment to the unity and mission of the body?

### 4. Rouse Your Thinking in Tending (6–8)

#### Stewarding Grace Gifts

1. Read 1 Peter 4:10–11. What does it mean to see your gifts as something entrusted to you rather than something that belongs to you?
2. How can comparison or insecurity keep people from actively using their gifts in the church?

#### Serving with Purpose and Faith

1. Paul connects gifts with faith and grace. Why is it important that our service is not driven by ability alone, but by dependence on God?
2. Which of the gifts listed in Romans 12:6–8 do you naturally gravitate toward, and how are you currently using that to build up others?

