



Summary Our continual surrender to Christ is foundational to discovering the purpose and adventure God intends for our lives.

Read Romans 12:1–3 and ask the following questions:

- **1** What do you like about this passage?
- 2 What do you find uncomfortable or difficult to understand in this passage?
- **3** What appears to be the main idea emphasized in this passage? (Look for repeated words or ideas.)

Consider how the following passages increase our understanding of this topic:

Read Philippians 3:1–14.

How would you describe Paul's desire to know Christ?

Why was Paul so willing to consider everything a loss?

Read Luke 9:18-26.

What do you think Jesus meant when He said that to be His disciple they must "*deny themselves, take up their cross daily and follow me?*" (*New International Version*)

What do people gain by living for themselves?

What do people gain by living for Jesus?

In your own words, what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?

What do you find most difficult about being a disciple of Jesus?

What hinders you from doing what He asks you to do? From going where He sends you? From saying what He wants you to say?

- 4 What are the beliefs and values promoted in these passages?
- **5** What do these passages reveal about our human condition and God's response?
- **6** How are these beliefs and values similar or different from those that have influenced you? (such as your family, culture, peers, church, etc.)
- **7** How might our faith increase and our lives change as we embrace what is true and important?

8 In light of what we've discussed, how can we pray for each other right now?

Describe something you've done that you were afraid of, but was worth the risk.

3 Care

Since we last met, what happened as a result of expressing Christ's love to others?

How can you, or we, express Christ's love to others this week?

Here are a few ideas:

Pray God would meet their deepest needs.

Help meet a felt need they have.

Encourage them with a text, note or verbally.

Give them a thoughtful gift or buy them coffee.

Invite them to do something fun or meaningful.

Listen to their story.

Explore their thoughts on the gospel.