Sacrificed Bodies and Renewed Minds
Rom. 12:1-2

Introduction:
A. These are logical result from the “mercies of God”.
   1. The mercies discussed in chapters 1-11, “therefore” (cf. 5:8; 6:17; 8:1; 11:32-36).
   2. The mercies demand a complete transformation (metamorphous).
      a. Body sacrificed to God’s service. (cf. 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 9:27).
      b. Mind renewed and proving (testing in order to approve) God’s will. cf. “Try it you will like it”.
B. These result in good fruits for God:

Discussion:
I. A Productive Church.
   A. With members who think soberly about themselves. (v. 3)
      1. None with NO functions - not all SAME, but all SOME.
      2. None with ALL functions - (cf. 1 Cor. 12:27-31).
      3. Each identifying HIS “gift”: Some natural, some acquired, with opportunity.
   B. With members who fully exercise their functions. (v. 6-8).
      1. Major in own ability - few “jack of all trades” (cf. Acts 6:2-4; Ex. 18).
      2. Diligently and steadfastly serving. (vs. 11-12).
   C. With members who accept their abilities and limitations.
      1. As important as other but no more or less important. (1 Cor. 12:12-25)
      2. As one who accepts both his abilities and limitations.
         a. If qualified for “leadership” accepts appointment as work needing done.
         b. If not qualified and appointed will serve well in other areas.
   D. With members who are are more interested in serving than being honored for service. (cf. 1 Cor. 4:6,7).
      1. Do not find “menial” or servants work degrading. (cf. John 13).
      2. Prefer honor for others and work for themselves. (12:10-13).

II. A Proper Conduct.
   A. Toward brethren with pure love and kind affection. (v. 9-10).
      1. Love that abhors evil and cleaves to good - not hypocritical mush.
      2. Love that is concerned with needs of brethren. (v. 13).
      3. Love that identifies with brethren's joys and sorrows. (v. 15).
      4. Love that is unconcerned with brethren's status in world. (v. 16).
   B. Toward all men.
      1. Hospitable. (v. 13).
      2. Humble (v. 16) - Not a “know it all” (cf. 1 Cor. 8:1,2).
      3. Honorable. (v. 17 ASV).
      4. Peaceful. (v. 18-21).

Conclusion:
A. Let us sacrifice our bodies and renew our minds:
   1. So this church can be more productive.
   2. So this Lord’s cause be helped by our proper conduct.
B. Let us not be conformed to the world but transformed.
C. Let us do it all so we can hear “well done ... good and faithful servant”.