GETTING STARTED

In what ways can we, as Christians, minimize the importance of our minds/intellect/reason in how we follow Christ?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

As you consider what Jesus means by loving God with ALL of your mind...what have you always thought Jesus meant?

Dave said that Loving God with all your mind starts in humility, (Is. 55:8-9) involves continually unlearning and learning (Romans 12:1-2) new patterns and takes an active role in engaging your mind in the world (2 Corinthians 10:3-5). Which of these points is something you'd like to apply most? Why?

In what way is our mind connected to our spiritual life?

How can arguments and pretensions set itself against the knowledge of God?

What does it mean for you to "take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Romans 12:1-2]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

How do people properly worship God? (12:1)

What is the most reasonable response to God's great mercy? (12:1-2)

How is the Christian to be different from unbelieving people? (12:2)

How should the mind of a Christian be changed? (12:2)

What must happen in order for a person to discern and agree with the will of God? (12:2)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

What right does God have to ask us for a full-life commitment to Him?

What makes offering our bodies as living sacrifices an act of worship? Why does Paul say this is your rational or reasonable act of worship?

In what ways are our minds susceptible to just copying and conforming to the "world"?

What customs, or behaviors are difficult for us to root out of our lives? Why?

What are the patterns can we unlearn?

What would it look like (as you think through Scripture) to let God transform you into a new person? What does Paul mean when he says "new person"?

How can a Christian renew his or her mind by changing what you think? What needs replacing? (eg habit, practice, pattern)

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in these passages? What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage? How can we pray for each other?