

CHRISTIANITY 101



PREACHING SERIES FROM ROMANS 12

*I urge you brothers and sisters,
by the mercies of God...*

Romans 12:1

Actually, it's quite hilarious when you think about it. Whenever an extended definition or synonym for a word is needed, I immediately turn to the illustrious *Cambridge Dictionary*. Considered a 'highbrow' resource, it is published by THE Cambridge University, founded in 1209 A.D. This storied institution has been the center of all streams of knowledge such as philosophy, language, literature, classics, geography, history...you name it.

Out of curiosity, I ventured on: How would these sophisticated Britishers across the pond **handle a definition for 101?** Glad you asked. '*The phrase 101 is a common expression that means showing the most basic knowledge of a subject.*' It continued with a highly technical example: 'e.g. You should know how to boil an egg, that's Cooking 101.' Ouch!

That got me to thinking. How many of us having been believers for much, if not most of our lives...would be challenged to articulate **CHRISTIANITY 101?** Alas, if it could only be as simple as 'boiling an egg.'

The book of Romans is Paul's Masterpiece which takes us on a breathtaking journey from the depths of human sinfulness to the heights of God's redemptive plan in Jesus Christ. Then, like the master painter he splashes the glorious future God has in store across the canvas.

And yet...about 2/3 of the way through this 16 chapter epistle he comes to Romans 12. Like a ref who blows his whistle he says: STOP AND LISTEN! If you really claim to be a Christian, here's what it's all about. 'I beseech you brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice...." Romans 12:1.

Tomorrow we start a seven-week series on Romans 12 predictably called **CHRISTIANITY 101.** Why not check out this link?

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/>

search=Romans 12&version=NIV. Then spend a few quality minutes reading it through.

The title of this week's message is **AT THE HEART OF IT ALL**. And, just for the record, I STILL do not know how to boil an egg!

Pastor Chuck

THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN BELOW



Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer yourselves as a living sacrifice....

-Romans 12:1



**5150 Peridia Blvd. East
Bradenton, FL 34203
(941) 739-0202**

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