

What changes is God working in your life these days? ... In our second reading, Paul describes his strenuous participation in God's transformation. Is there something you can do to cooperate with God's process of transformation in your life?

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**Saturday, 3/14/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: God calls each of us into partnership, but we all feel some uncertainty about it. How do I know specifically what God wants me to do? DISCERNMENT is identifying those few things that God seems to want me to do. The ability to discern, though, comes as a result of: receiving God's mercies, offering ourselves to God, worshipping God, adopting God-values (instead of world-values), and cooperating with God's transformation. The ability to discern doesn't just happen, it is the result of our living relationship with God. Read Romans 12:1-2 again. Does this way of thinking about discernment make sense?

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**Sunday, 3/15/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

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A Question to Answer: "God's will" -- God's purpose and intention in our lives -- is good and acceptable and complete; "complete" is a better translation than "perfect." When I have correctly discerned God's will in my life, then I have found those purposes that truly "fit" for me individually. I have found those actions, activities and services that are deeply satisfying and fulfilling. ... Can you remember a time in life when it seemed to you that you had discerned God's will for you and it was good and complete? What was that experience like for you?

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*My Faith Journal, March 8, 2009*  
Experiencing Call #6  
**"Keen Insight, Good Judgment"**

**What do I hear God saying to me today?**

**What action do I intend to take this week?**

*Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.*

**Discernment 2**

**Monday, 3/9/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2 and Psalm 86**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: There are some verses in the Bible that are so important that we keep coming back to them over and over. The first two verses of Romans 12 are like that. We're going to spend this week digging deep into these two verses. ... The verses begin with an appeal "by God's mercies," or literally by God's compassion. Read quickly through Psalm 86 and notice the emphasis on God's steadfast love. In your own life, how have you experienced God's mercy, God's compassion, God's steadfast love?

**Tuesday, 3/10/09 – Read Romans 12:1-12 and Luke 9:57-62**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: Once we have experienced or received the compassion of God, then we can begin to think about our response to God. Romans 12:1 appeals to us to present our selves as living sacrifice, as an offering to God. What do you think it means to offer yourself to God? What's your first thought? Do you think of it as a "thank offering" -- a way of saying thanks for the mercy and compassion you have already received? ... Now read through Luke 9:57-62. Do Jesus' responses seem harsh to you? In each case the person wanted to follow Jesus -- but not completely. Each of them withheld something. Think about it for a moment. What do we withhold? What do you withhold? ... What would it be like to offer ourselves fully?

**Wednesday, 3/11/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2 and Isaiah 6:1-8**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: Offering ourselves to God is an essential part of worship. That's the claim of Romans 12:1. Does that seem right to you? ... When do you worship? Sunday mornings? Are there other times? When you worship, do you consciously and intentionally offer yourself to God? ... Look at the response of Isaiah to his vision of God (Isaiah 6:8). Does that seem like a right response to you? How would you say it for yourself? How would you express your offering to God?

**Thursday, 3/12/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: What do you think it means to be "conformed to this world"? ... What are the values that drive our world? List some of them; write them down. Where do you see those values being dominant? ... The values of the world are very seductive and alluring, and they are reinforced in all the media we see all the time. ... Are God's values different? Pick one value that you think is a "God-value" that you'd like to work into your life. In your prayer today, ask God to help you make that one value more prominent in your life.

**Friday, 3/13/09 – Read Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 3:12-16**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Question to Answer: Romans 12:2 has two twin instructions: (1) don't be conformed but (2) be transformed. Building God-values into our lives is transformative. It changes us. ... Look back over your life and back over your own faith journey; what changes and transformations can you identify? How has your faith transformed you already? ... Can you see a next step?