

SESSION 1:

CULTURE AND FAITH IN CONFLICT

We're talking today about the influence of culture. How can we, as Christians, live a holy life in the midst of an ungodly culture?

- In what ways do you think America has become, as David Nasser says, the “great inventors of so many heart-breaking things?”
- What does the statement, “Let your life be a testimony to God” mean to you?
- Read **Romans 1:29-31**. What are some of the words Paul uses to describe the Roman people?
- What are some consequences of living this way without God?
- Read **Romans 12:1-5**. What does it mean to offer your body as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God?
- Why can it be so easy to conform to what is going on around us?
- How do you renew your mind on a daily basis? What difference do you see when your mind is controlled by the Spirit vs. your own desires?
- How can serving and using your gifts keep you from being influenced by the world's deceptions?

CHALLENGE

Consider picking a TV show, podcast, or movie that you regularly watch/listen to and substitute that time with reading a few chapters out of Romans.

FURTHER STUDY

Read **Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:13**, and **10:9**. Write about the time that you first believed that Jesus Christ died and rose again for your sin?

How are you grateful for the gift of salvation in your life?