

That's where the joy comes in...

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 - Tempered in love, led by the Spirit, devoted to God

Cookie Cutter Christians

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This is what the enemy's plan
for the church looks like...

God made us and gifted us

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- Loud and proud

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- Funny and carefree
- Determined and serious

Our uniqueness is His gift to us and to His Church

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- Our rough edges polish the edges of others
 - Hugging each other in fellowship

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 - Six-eyed rabbits

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- Our testimonies can be lifelines
 - Millstones or Milestones

Romans 12: 1-2

"And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

Living Sacrifices...

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- We're not embalmed yet...
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- All of you
 - Not just your finger...

Wild and wooly worship

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- This truly is what God wants

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 - Us being real in the midst of the Body of Christ

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The world tells us...

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 - "Jesus Christ is an American..."

- Change your behavior

The world tells us...

- Change your behavior

The WORD tells us...

- Change your thinking

Living, Loving Sacrifices

- It's not the giving, it's not the getting

Living, Loving Sacrifices

- It's not the giving, it's not the getting
- It's the loving
 - Loving God
 - Loving each other
 - Loving ourselves

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 - Thing of tremendous use
 - Meets needs nothing else can or will

Beauty of the cactus...

- Source of water in the desert
 - Thing of tremendous use
 - Meets needs nothing else can or will
- Periodic displays of the world thinks pretty
 - Solid, strong, sturdy
 - Protects the defenseless
 - Thick hide that handles barbs easily

Let's see the joy in the sacrifice

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- We are loved
- We are essential
- We have purpose
- We are beautiful

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Just as He designed us to be