

## February 24 - 27

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." Romans 12:1-2, 9-18.

A necessary step in the work of repentance is *reflection*, a rethinking of our past actions and attitudes. Have our words and actions been good and acceptable and perfect? Where have we fallen short of who we would like to be, of who we believe God created us to be? Where can our love be more genuine, and how might we turn from evil and hold tighter to all that is good? As you take time to reflect on your life, invite God to help you be renewed in faith, hope, and love! Even more, picture what that might look like in your life, and then resolve to bring that picture to life.

**#REthinkILC Lent Photo for this week:** Inspired by the word "*REFLECT*", take a photo and either put it on your social media with **#REthinkILC** or email it to <u>kelly@immanuel.us</u> by noon on Saturday, February 27.

**REnew52 action for this week: PRAY.** As you reflect on your life raise up prayers of confession and ask God to bring about change in your life.