

True Spirituality—Romans 12 (Revised Next Level 30)

Introduction & Chapter One

1. Give the outline of Romans 12 as given by Chip Ingram: page xx-xxii

Your relationship with _____ Surrendered to _____ verse 1

Your relationship with the _____ Separate from the _____ verse 2

Your relationship with _____ Sober in self-assessment verses 3-8

your relationship with _____ serving in love verses 9-13

your relationship with _____ Supernaturally responding to evil with good vs. 14-21

2. How does Chip Ingram's story resonate with your journey? What are some highlights of your own spiritual journey over your lifetime up to the present time? pages xxii-xxx

3. What was the reason Chip Ingram was missing God's joy, power and presence in his life? What are the reasons why this is so important? Chapter One pages 3-7

Chapter Two—Why is it so hard to surrender to God?

1. In what ways have the stories of John, Sheila and Jesus' story of the hidden treasure (Matt. 13:44-46) reframe our understanding of surrender?

2. Chip said, "Total commitment is the channel through which God's best and biggest blessings flow." What are some of the ways you have experienced this to be true in your life?

Chapter Three—Do you believe God has your best in mind?

1. Write down the top two barriers (fears) that keep you (have kept you) from making a total commitment to Jesus Christ? Your personal answer.

2. What is the warped view many have of God that makes it difficult for them to totally surrender their lives to God? pages 21-23 What verse in Romans 12 refutes this idea?

Chapter Four—What does a surrendered life look like?

1. Read chapter four first then answer the questions below. Chip shared the story of Abraham sacrificing his son Isaac as well as his own story of surrendering the idols of basketball and a girl friend in his life. Who or what is (has been/could be) the Isaac in your life? What is your biggest fear of releasing that "Isaac"? pages 27-35

2. Have you ever totally surrendered your life to Christ? When? If not, why not do it right now.

Chapter Five—Are you “all in.”?

1. What are the two reasons you can't be an authentic Christ follower on your own terms? page 39

2. Psalm 84:11 is a verse Chip used to seal his decision to fully surrender everything to Christ. Read this verse and share the insights about what you receive from God when you declare your trust in Him with our life and future. pages 40-41

Chapter Six—Are you getting God's best?

1. What comes to your mind when you think about doing God's will? Does your mind gravitate to words like difficult, painful, distasteful; or do you see His will is good, well pleasing and custom made for your benefit and joy? Why?

2. How and where have you struggled the most in your journey with Christ? What habits, sins or setbacks seem to thwart your relationship with Christ? This is a personal question.

Chapter Seven—Why is the Christian life so difficult?

1. As the enemy of our soul, Satan uses the spiritual world's system to make a Christian useless. What are the four things the world system is designed to do to us according to the author? page 58

2. Describe the interior battle we have as Christians. What are the two forces fighting against each other inside us? What are some steps we need to take to have victory in this battle? Galatians 5:17, Romans 8:1-4, 7:6

Chapter Eight—Are you a faithful lover?

1. What are the three seducers of the world system given in I John 2:15-16? Describe these three enemies and give the different ways they can take us away from God. To which one of these three are you most vulnerable? pages 68-73

2. What is really at the heart of worldliness? page 74

Chapter Nine—Could your mental diet be killing your soul?

1. List and amplify the four statements the author gives on what it means to renew our souls? pages 81-82

2. What method did Chip Ingram use to “jump start” his mental diet and what effect did that have in his victory over lusting? pages 84-85

Chapter Ten—Are you tired of “trying hard” and feeling guilty?

1. List the practical points you gleaned from this section on “How to renew your mind.” pages 95-96

Chapter Eleven—Who do you think you are?

1. Growing up, what did you do to overcome your insecurity and get other’s approval?

2. What were the primary messages you received in your childhood that have shaped your view of yourself?

Chapter Twelve—Have you answered life’s biggest questions?

1. What are three fundamental questions in life and what three areas do these questions deal with?
pages 113-115

2. What are three barriers that keep us from discovering who we really are? How have you seen these barriers play out in your relationships? pages 118-120

Chapter Thirteen—Have you discovered the real you?

1. What is the main point of Romans 12:3? On a scale of one to ten, how accurate do you think your view of yourself is? Has this view of yourself ever changed? Explain.

2. A sober assessment involves not only understanding our gifts, abilities, passions and place in the church but also our position in Christ. What are five critical areas of our lives that give us a sober assessment of who we are in Christ? Which one of these five areas do you have the most difficulty accepting what God's Word says about them in relationship to your life? pages 135-137

Chapter Fourteen—Where do you fit in God's family?

1. Write down three things you are good at (strengths) and three things you are not so good at (weaknesses). Share with each other one from each group.

2. What is the chief lesson that chapter Fourteen of this book and Romans 12:4 teaches us about ourselves and the body of Christ—the Church? Pages 142-147

Chapter Fifteen—Do you know God's purpose for your life?

1. What is the value of discovering and deploying your primary spiritual gifts? pages 159-160

Chapter Sixteen—What is authentic community anyway?

1. From John 13 and John 17, what did Jesus command us and what did He pray for His disciples in relationship with this? Give the exact scriptural passages where these are found.

2. Give reasons why authentic Christian community is important to our lives? pages 170-176

Chapter Seventeen—Why is God serious about your authenticity?

1. The Greek word for “hypocrisy/sincere” means “without a mask.” Living without authenticity can destroy real community in a church. Tell the main points of the Bible story of how God severely disciplined the hypocrisy in the early church. pages 183-184

2. Why is purity so important in a Christian’s life? How does sin in a person’s life destroy authenticity and community? pages 186-187

Chapter Eighteen—Are you building relationships that last a lifetime?

1. Who comes to mind when you think of someone who has honored you, been devoted to you or met a real need in your life? Give details.

Chapter Nineteen-What's keeping you from experiencing authentic community?

1. "Never be lacking in zeal" means "Don't be lazy or slothful." Give the classic definition of laziness (per Ingram) and give the practical implications of this command to our lives. page 206

2. How can we be constantly "Keeping our spiritual fervor?" How do we lose our spiritual passion? page 207

3. What is the acid test for knowing whether we are really serving the Lord or just serving ourselves in order to get the praise, appreciation and approval of others? pages 208-210

Finish this sentence: Loving people for the right reasons means _____

_____ page 210

Chapter Twenty—Where is your focus?

1. What does Paul mean by the phrase, "Be joyful in hope?" page 217

2. Paul commands us to be "Faithful in prayer." In what way could you grow in this area in the next year? Why don't you stop and ask God to help you right now.

Chapter Twenty-one—Who has hurt you the most?

1. As you read the story of Chip's ill treatment at the hands of his team mate Jimmy, did any person in your own life come to mind? How did you come to a place where you could forgive?

Chapter Twenty-two—Will you let Christ heal you?

1. What are three stages of the forgiveness process? Unpack each one. pages 241-244

2. What is the key to stage two in "forgiving"? pages 242-243

Chapter Twenty-three—Do you know when you look most like Christ?

1. "Rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn" talks about the step of identification which takes place after we have first forgiven our enemies. What are different ways we can identify with our enemies (or other Christians) in their joy and pain. pages 249-251

Chapter Twenty-four—Could you be "playing God" and not even know it?

1. What are two compelling reasons we shouldn't pursue personal retaliation? Explain each in detail. pages 261-262

Chapter Twenty-five—Are you ready to see God do the impossible?

1. In light of Romans 12:17-21 should a Christian ever participate in war? page 264, Romans 13 Should a Christian take someone to court for illegal activities? pages 267-268