

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1 – 2, The New English Bible (no longer in print)

*Therefore, my brothers, I implore you by God's mercy to offer your very selves to him: a living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for his acceptance, the worship offered by mind and heart. Adapt yourselves no longer to the pattern of this present world, but let your minds be remade and your whole nature thus transformed. Then you will be able to discern the will of God and know what is good acceptable and perfect.*

Every Christian is blessed with the presence of the Holy Spirit in their heart. We like to grieve the Holy Spirit by not yielding our will to His will. The power of the Holy Spirit is available through the submission of our will, wherein we will experience the peace we desire, and the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, fidelity, gentleness, and self-control. Now that's an opportunity too good to pass up!!

Fifty-Two years ago, I sought the power of God in my life but did not know how to attain that power. The Holy Spirit set me on a path that opens my eyes to the necessity of yielding my stubborn will to the will of God. I did, God knew I was sincere, and He began a transformation of my heart. He removed from me the physical pain I was experiencing, He took from me my desire for strong drink, He gave me a hunger for His Word and the Holy Spirit who wrote the word revealed its meaning and truth. That was the beginning of my journey, a journey available to all Christians!!

My *Prayer* is that all Christians will take advantage of this unique power for daily living available to each and every one of us.

~Submitted by George Bagwell for the Third Reading of Lent.