

THE WILL OF GOD
Let Your Love Be Real And Radical
Romans 12:9-21

Big Idea: Let your love be real and radical by loving your spiritual family and your enemy.

I. Let your love be real (12:9a)

9a Let love be genuine.

> God's love revealed in Romans:

- God loves us (Rom. 1:7).
- God poured His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5).
- God showed His love for us through Christ's death on the cross (Rom. 5:6-7).
- God will never allow anything to separate us from His love (Rom. 8:35-38).

> Christian love comes from God (1 Jn. 4:7-11).

1 John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.... In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his only Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

> Regeneration revolutionizes our relationship with God and man.

Romans 1:21-32

- Heartless (1:31)
- Approving of evildoers (1:32)
- God-haters (1:30)
- Arrogant and boastful (1:30)
- Strife (1:29)
- Malice (1:29)

Romans 12:9-21

- Loving (12:9-10)
- Hate evil (12:9)
- Surrender self to God to Serve the Lord (12:1-2, 11)
- Do not be proud or conceited (12:16)
- Live in harmony and peace (12:16, 18)
- Repay no-one for evil (12:17)

II. Let your love be radical (12:9bc-21)

A. By loving your spiritual family (12:9bc -13, 15-16)

(1) Love protects (v. 9bc).

9bc Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

1 Corinthians 13:6

6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

(2) Love cares (v. 10a)

10a Love one another with brotherly affection.

1 Peter 1:22

22 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

(3) Love honors (v. 10b)

10b Outdo one another in showing honor.

(4) Love serves (v. 11)

11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

(5) Love endures (v. 12)

12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

1 Corinthians 13:7

7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

(6) Love gives (v. 13)

13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Lev. 19:33-34

33 "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. 34 You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

(7) Love sympathizes (v. 15)

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

1 Corinthians 12:26

26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

(8) Love agrees (v. 16a)

16 Live in harmony with one another.

1 Corinthians 1:10

10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

(9) Love stoops (v. 16bc)

16bc Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

1 Corinthians 13:4

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant

B. By loving your enemy (12:14, 17-21)

Luke 6:27-28

27 "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

(1) Never pay back evil with evil (vv. 17-18).

17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

(2) Never avenge yourself (v. 19).

19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

1 Peter 3:9

9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

(3) Always conquer evil with good (vv. 20-21).

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.