



PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS – The Christian Playbook

Community Group Study Guide Romans 12:9-13 – Week of October 30th, 2022

1. **Let love be genuine-** Love for God, and love for others is the primary call to obedience for us as Christians. The temptation is to exhibit an external/hypocritical love. Paul instructs us to love genuinely as Christ has loved us.
2. **Abhor what is evil-**In order to love, we must desire good for those we love. In turn, we should abhor what is evil, as it is in opposition to good.
3. **Hold fast to what is good-**In contrast to abhorring evil, we are called to be hold fast to good... to be glued to it. We must pursue good, as evil will always be intruding.
4. **Love one another with brotherly affection-**This is a calling for familiar love, love towards those who you would not necessarily select. Love those who are in the family of God, because they are in the family of God.
5. **Outdo one another in showing honor-**As Christians, we are called to reflect honor. This continues the idea of considering others, their worth and value, greater than ourselves.
6. **Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord-**The opposite of fervent/faithful is an attitude of slothfulness. Paul reminds us that when we serve the Lord, our instruction is to remain fervent in our spirit.
7. **Rejoice in hope-**The hope that we have in Christ is eternal... so we should rejoice and remind ourselves of this hope.
8. **Patient in tribulation-**There will be sadness in our circumstances. Paul encourages us to be steadfast in those moments, remembering our hope.
9. **Be constant in prayer-**To remain patient, we must devote ourselves to pray. This simple means an ongoing dialogue from our heart to Gods.
10. **Contribute to the needs of the saints-**As God has been generous to us, we therefore should be generous, specially to those in the house of the Lord.
11. **Seek to show hospitality-**As Christians, God has shown us hospitality by adopting us. In response, we should seek to be hospitability whenever possible.

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

The Christian, we are saved by Gods grace and called to a life of obedience. Paul gives us a description of what obedience should look like.

Heart

The instruction to love God and others is not only a intellectual exercise, but one of the heart. We should stir up passion for what God has called good, and against what God has called evil.

Hands

Paul lays out many practical areas for us to focus on. We should soberly assess where we are in comparison to the calling placed on us, and strive to fulfill all that the Lord has instructed us.

Read Romans 12:9-13

1. What is love? How do we define it? What are some of parts/types of love?
2. Paul starts with telling us that our love must be genuine, or the opposite of hypocritical. Why does he start here? What are the implications that Paul is trying to remind us of?
3. Pastor Jan had reminded us that to truly love, there in turn must be a hatred of evil. What is meant by this idea? How would you explain this idea of righteous hate to a non-believer?
4. What is our response when we are zealous in our service, but lack a fervent spirit?
5. **Read Job 13:15** How does this/how can this passage encourage us in times of tribulation?
6. How does the calling to be “generous to the saints” differ from tithing? What way should this principal look like in our lives?
7. In verse 10, what is meant by “outdo one another in showing honor?” What role does verse 3 play into the practical application of this principle?