

Gospel Transformation = Real Love
October 22, 2023

Introduction:

Text: Romans 12:9–13

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Love Factors:

- __EEP yourself in the love of God, Jude 21
- __ am loved, 1 John 4:8-10
- __TAY ALERT of counterfeits, Romans 13:8
- __HARING God's love is his plan for me, John 13:35

Big Idea: A gospel transformed life treats others differently. God's love won't flow _____ me until it flows _____ me.

1-The Gospel transforms your love from the _____ into the authentic (9a)

- **let love be genuine** (without hypocrisy)
- "Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it." (MSG)
- Question: Why would it be tempting to love hypocritically?

2-The Gospel transforms our love by grounding it in God's _____ (9b)

- **abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good**
- To "abhor" means to "be horrified"
 - We must recognize evil for the killing, corrupting power that it is. BE HORRIFIED BY IT.
 - "hold fast" literally means "glue yourselves inseparably" to what God calls good. NO GOOD APART FROM THAT.

3-Gospel transformed love should feel like _____ (10a)

- **love one another with brotherly affection**
- Love that is "doggedly committed" (Tim Keller)

4-The Gospel frees you of self to value others without _____-reservation (10b)

- **outdo one another in showing honor**
- It's valuing the "Imago Dei" (image of God) in others
- _____

The gospel transforms your love, so that the church becomes a community of honor in a culture of contempt.

5-The Gospel energizes your love with an overflowing optimism in God's _____ (11-12)

- **Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.**

6- Gospel transformed love combines _____ with _____ (13)

- **Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality**

Truth into Action:

#1- If you have been reborn by God, your relationship will be changing.

#2- Is the love of God flowing through you? YES or NO -- Remember God's love won't flow out of me until it flows through me.



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: Why is love so needed in the human life?

Take a moment to review the Love Factors in the introduction to the sermon.

Based upon v. 9, Why would it be tempting to love hypocritically?

Why is it important to recognize that love is a command, not a feeling?

Who are you doing a pretty good job at loving like Paul says?

Who are you not doing a good job at loving like Paul says?

Are you devoted to prayer? Discuss each quality for examples and practical ways to apply them.

Who has done a good job at loving you like Paul says? Describe that person and your relationship.

CLOSING PRAYER: Father God, it says in 1 John 3:16 *By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.* Help me this week to love others well because you have overwhelmed me with your love and I know it well. Amen

Works consulted:

Romans for You, Tim Keller

Romans – Galatians, Yarbrough

“Gifted,” JD Greear

Romans, Kent

Romans, RC Sproul