

Title: This Summer I Am Going To____. Have relationships that matter. Scripture: Romans 12:9-18 Date: 07152017 Bible Version: NLT

BOTTOM LINE: In order to love others unconditionally, we must first know the unconditional love of the Father.

Vs. 9

Don't just pretend to love others - Paul tells us not to pretend to love others. Our love for others should be sincere.

Hate what is wrong - really dislike what is wrong...or evil. Treat evil like trash. Get away from it.

Vs. 10

Love each other - To have a mutual love. Paul gives us a command to love each other with 'genuine affection'.

Take delight in honoring each other - Love by leading. The idea is that we should lead by example. To go before as a leader.

Vs. 11

Never be lazy, but work hard - Not only are we called to honoring relationships, but we are also called to work hard.

The church is no place for laziness. - Guzik

God give us the ability (through the Holy Spirit) to do hard things.

Human nature is interested in credentials, God is interested in character.

Vs. 12

Rejoice in our confident hope - Paul says to have joy in our hope. Who is our hope? Christ Jesus.

Be patient in trouble - Difficult times do not excuse us from showing genuine love to others.

Vs. 13

Always be eager to practice hospitality - the word for hospitality means 'love of strangers'.

A hospitable church and home are a hospital for the hurting.

True hospitality is practical Christianity.- Courson

Vs. 14

Bless those who persecute you - Paul reminds us to bless those who persecute us. Lose the hateful attitude towards others who come against you.

Vs. 15

Notice Paul does not say to preach to those who are weeping.

We can weep with others without questioning God's goodness and

sovereignty.

Vs. 16

Too proud - the idea is to be too lofty.

And don't think you know it all - Intellectual ascension can separates us

from the people who love us.

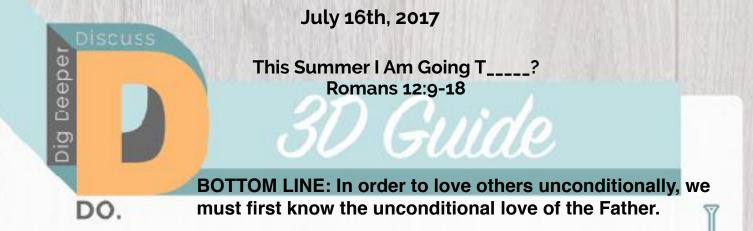
Vs. 17

Never pay back evil with more evil - The person who trusts God doesn't resort to taking things into their own hands.

God has called us to love, not to judge.

Vs. 18

Live in peace - Paul suggests that we live in harmony with everyone.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on <u>blueletterbible.com</u> or with their app.



DISCUSS.

- 1. As a followers of Christ, is it hard to deal with people? Why?
- 2. As followers of Christ, are we called to love ALL people?
- 3. What are some practical ways that we can love other unconditionally?
- 4. Do you have relationships that you can work on this week?

DO.

- 1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
- 2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
- 3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
- 4. What is your prayer for today?



TAKEHOME

DATE: July 16th, 2017

Scripture: Ephesians 6:11-18 - Armor of God

Take Home Questions:

What does the armor of God protect us from?
What does the belt represent?
What does the body armor represent?
What do the shoes represent?
What does the shield represent?
What does the helmet represent?

What does the sword represent?

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,