

“Dealing with Difficult People”

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. “But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12: 14-21

Introductory background: Rom 12:19a; 21,14

1. Never _____ the power of your _____.
(Acts 7:58-8:1; Rom. 12:21,14)
2. Be _____ in sharing in the _____ of others.
(Rom. 12:15)
3. Listen with _____ and with an anticipation of _____ your _____.
(Rom. 12:16-21)

Discussion Questions

1. Without looking at your notes, recall as many of the sermon’s three main application points as you can from memory. Now look at your notes and read the three main application points.
2. Do you find it easier to ASK for forgiveness or to GIVE forgiveness? Explain.
3. Share an event from your life when you blessed instead of cursed someone for what they did to you. How did it play out? Are you glad you blessed them? Why or why not?
4. What is your favorite revenge movie? Why do you think revenge movies are so popular?
5. Why does God claim that vengeance is HIS *kuleana* (responsibility)?
6. What do the following verses teach about blessing: Gen. 12:3; Deut. 11:2-28; Mt. 5:1-22; Mk. 10:16; Acts 20:35; Eph. 1:13; James 1:12; 3:10; 1 Pet. 3:9; Rev. 1:3?