

Romans 12:3-16

CG Discussion Guide// Week of September 4, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

- Icebreaker: Have you ever met a celebrity? Who was it and how did it go?
- Take some time to pray for one another's needs and requests (refer to the Weekly Prayer Guide if needed)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Vv. 3-8
 - How do sober judgment and personal measure of faith figure in how we serve in God's ministry?
 - What would be the criteria for sober judgment?
 - Why would one's measure of faith matter? What does it say about maturity in Christ and fitness for serving in the church?
 - What are the different gifts laid out in Rom. 12:6-8?
 - What is the point of having different giftings in the church?
 - How does that inform how we see each other?
 - What is Paul's purpose in giving an accompanying attitude or mindset with each gifting? How do these attitudes and perspectives inform our use of the gifts?
 - In v. 6, Paul commands us to use our gifts for the body of Christ. Is it fair to say that failure to exercise our God-given gifts in church is disobedience?
 - What gifts have you perceived that God has given you? How have you been able to exercise those gifts in service for the church? How have you grown in faith in using those gifts?
- Vv. 9-16
 - V. 9: What does it mean for love to be genuine? How does genuine love inform the exhortations that follow? How does abhorring what is evil and cling to the good inform these following exhortations?
 - V. 10: How does loving each other in brotherly affection look like? In what ways can we one-up each other in showing honor?
 - V. 11: What does it look like to be slothful in zeal? What could contribute to that? How does serving the Lord in fervent spirit combat slothfulness?
 - V. 12: What is the reason for rejoicing in hope? How does hopeful rejoicing contribute to patience and constant prayer?
 - V. 13: What are some needs among Redeemer that you perceive to be big ones? In what ways are you showing hospitality?
 - V. 14: Why are we called to bless our persecutors and not curse? How do we bless our persecutors?
 - V. 15: How do we rejoice and weep well?
 - How does encouragement and edification towards the broken differ from "rejoicing with the weeping"?
 - How does sober judgment and loving warnings differ from "weeping with those who rejoice"?
 - V. 16: How do harmony and humility go together? What does it mean to be wise in our own eyes and how is that an enemy of loving each other?

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

The Bible promises that anything we ask for in Jesus' name – that is according to His will – shall be granted to us (John 14:13-14). In view of this great promise, the prayer requests are all grounded in Scripture. When we pray Scripture, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will.

That does not mean God will grant our requests in our preferred time or according to our frail wisdom; but it does mean that we can pray confidently knowing that God delights to answer these requests, for they are His words.

Use the accompanying Scripture verses to shape and inform your prayers.

PRAY FOR YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY:

- That your daily life will bring honor to the name of Jesus – (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
- That you will cast all of your anxieties on God – (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- That you will consider your trials as an opportunity for joy – (James 1:2-4)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

- That the power of Christ will rest on our church and ministries [Worship Gathering, Community Groups, Men/Women, Youth, Children, etc.] – (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- That God will give us the wisdom and faith that we desperately need to continue in faithful mission – (James 1:5-8)
- That God will make us fruitful in ministry – (John 15:1-2) – and bold in witness – (Eph. 6:18-20)

PRAY FOR OUR CITY:

- That God will give wisdom to our government (local, state, and national) that we may lead peaceful, godly lives – (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- That the Lord will continue to provide open doors of gospel ministry in IU and the Bloomington community – (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- That the work of God will be displayed in the lives of the members of our sister churches – (John 9:3)

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD:

- That the persecuted church will find fellowship with Jesus as they share in his sufferings – (Philippians 3:10-11)
- That the Lord of the harvest will send out more workers to unreached people groups because they have been gripped by Paul's missionary logic in Romans 10:13-17 – (Matthew 9:37-38)
- That Christ will return bringing the fullness of salvation with him – (Revelation 22:20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- September 7–Redeemer Women
- September 9-11: Redeemer’s 10th Birthday celebrations!
- September 18: Redeemer-in-10
- October 1: Membership Class
- October 5: Redeemer Men

Reminder: All events are listed in the Events tab in our Redeemer app. You can RSVP for specific events by going to the Events tab, clicking on an event, and following the link to register.