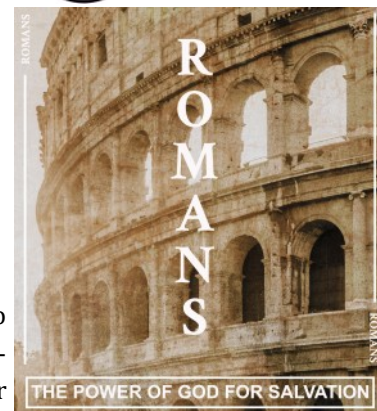


Pastor Jake Magee

November 2, 2025

Romans



Fight to Win
Romans 12:14-21

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

If You want to Win (Vs.21) ...

Don't Fight Their _____ (Vs.14)

Don't Fight on Their _____ (Vss.15-18)

Don't Fight in Their _____ (Vs.19)

Don't Fight for Their _____ (Vs.20)

Small Group Discussion Guide
Fight to Win
Romans 12:14-21

Getting Started

Share a story of when you had to do something embarrassing or uncomfortable to “win” or succeed. How did it feel to do what seemed foolish but was actually wise?

Digging Deeper (*Read Romans 12:14-21 & pray*)

1. Read verse 21

- Rephrase verse 21 in your own words.
- When you're in conflict, what does “winning” usually look like to you?
- Why is it hard to believe that *doing good to those who wrong you* is actually *winning*?

2. Read verses 14 & 17

- What are some “weapons” people commonly use in conflict?
- Share a time you returned evil for evil. What was the result?
- How might blessing someone who hurt you (v. 14) feel like “shooting granny-style” — humiliating but victorious? Give examples.

3. Read verse 15-18

- Why does Paul focus so much on the *inner world* (rejoicing, weeping, peace in the heart) when speaking about outer conflict?
- What would it look like for you to “win the war inside” before trying to win an argument outside? And why is that so hard?

4. Read verse 19

- What does it mean that “vengeance belongs to God”?
- Pastor Jake said, “You don’t own the dignity that people sin against—it’s God’s image in you.” How is this the key for having peace on the inside when at war on the outside?

5. Read Verse 20

- What does it mean to “heap burning coals” on someone’s head?
- How can responding with kindness bring conviction or transformation to another person?

Making It Real

- *Jesus overcame your evil with His good.* Take some time to discuss how Jesus’ interaction with the two thieves on the cross should impact how we fight and what we consider to be a “win.”
- Pray over any conflict you are in.

Resources: Romans: Righteousness from Heaven | R. Kent Hughes, www.blueletterbible.org, www.biblehub.com, www.preceptaustin.org