

THE GOSPEL IMPACTS OUR LOVE

ROMANS 12:9-21

9/14/25

I. THESIS – GOSPEL LOVE IS AUTHENTIC LOVE

Romans 12:9 - “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.”

A. “Without hypocrisy”

B. Evil and Good are objective not subjective

II. LOVE IN THE CHURCH

Romans 12:10-13 - “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. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”

A. Love is...

1. Familial (v.10a)
2. Honoring (v.10b)
3. Passionate (v.11)
4. Encouraging (v.12)
5. Giving (v.13)

III. LOVE IN THE WORLD

Romans 12:14-19 - “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’”

A. Love is counter-intuitive

1. Persecution – Blessing (v.14)
2. Evil – Honor (v.17)
3. Wrongdoing – no revenge (v.19)

B. Love is harmonious

1. It's sympathetic (v.15)
2. It's not partial (v.16)
3. It's peaceable (v.18)

IV. LOVE OVERCOMES

Romans 12:20-21 - "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."

A. Overcomes enmity

B. Overcomes evil

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing from the message this week that stood out or challenged your thinking?
2. Why is it so important of a command to make sure our love is genuine (without hypocrisy)? What does genuine love look like in Christ's Church? What does it look like to the world?
3. Paul encourages the believers to hold fast to what is good. What does "holding fast to what is good" look like in your life? Why is it so easy for us to lose our hold on what is good?
4. How does the Christian's definition of love differ from the world? What defines each of these loves (Christian love and worldly love)?
5. Which of the commands in this passage do you find most difficult to adhere to? Why?
6. Love for the world is love that is independent of the treatment we receive. Why is this such a counter cultural belief? How could this type of love create opportunities to share the good news of the Gospel with others?
7. What is one thing from the group or message this week that you want to live out? How can the group help you in accomplishing this?