

Lesson 17 ~ Romans 12:9-21

NIV

Romans 12:9-21

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **10** Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. **11** Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. **13** Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **15** Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. **16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. **18** If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

NLT

Romans 12:9-21

9 Don't just pretend that you love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good. **10** Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. **11** Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically.

12 Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and always be prayerful.

13 When God's children are in need, be the one to help them out. And get into the habit of inviting guests home for dinner or, if they need lodging, for the night.

14 If people persecute you because you are a Christian, don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. **15** When others are happy, be happy with them. If they are sad, share their sorrow. **16** Live in harmony with each other. Don't try to act important, but enjoy the

company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. **18** Do your part to live in peace with everyone, as much as possible.

19 Dear friends, never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God. For it is written, "I will take vengeance; I will repay those who deserve it," says the Lord.

20 Instead, do what the Scriptures say: "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink, and they will be ashamed of what they have done to you."

21 Don't let evil get the best of you, but conquer evil by doing good.

The Message

Romans 12:9-21

Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. **10** Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

11 Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, **12** cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. **13** Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

14 Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. **15** Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. **16** Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

17 Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. **18** If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. **19** Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

20 Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. **21** Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.