

Romans 12:9-21 Transformational Love in the Middle of Social Distancing

This passage of Scripture gives us 13 rapid fire commands related to love. It tells us what love should look like and how we can maintain it. Some of the commands tell us how we can transform our external relationships and other commands show how we can be transformed internally so that we are enabled to properly love others. This passage is built on an understanding of divine enablement that is detailed in Romans 6 – 8:13.

The chief command in this section is for your love for others to be _____.

Reciprocity Principle – We _____ Him because He first _____ us. 1 John 4:19

According to verse 9 – you have a _____ decision to make at the outset.

What internal commitment is verse 9 asking you to make?

Verse 10 – No one should ask themselves...“Do they _____ me?”

What type of tone would we set at church if we follow this verse? What if we don't follow this verse?

How can we apply this verse in light of Social Distancing?

Verses 11 and 12 You have _____ resources to maintain the external relationships

As we love and serve others, what internal resources do we need to be reminded of?

What can we be confident of (hope) that rejoices us at all times?

Verse 13 Love is to _____ to and _____ out others - saints and strangers

How can we apply this in light of the pandemic?

Verse 14 – have the attitude of Christ, not the attitude of your _____.

Verse 15 - Be emotionally _____ to those in need.

What normally keeps us from doing this? Is the pandemic actually helping in this regard?

Verse 16 - My favorite Rodney Dangerfield quote – “I would never want to belong to any club that would allow me to be a member.”

How can we apply this during the pandemic when we think about reaching out to people?

Verse 17-20 - Principles for handling conflict in a loving way.

What relationships can I fix or build up as I have more time during this pandemic?

Verse 21 – the summary – this goes back to your commitment in verse 9 that you are divinely enabled to accomplish through the power of Christ at work IN you. If we allow God to enable us, what transformation takes place? We overcome evil with _____.