

Scripture: Romans 12:9-21

OPEN:

1. In the ideal church, what three attitudes would you expect to find in people?

DIG:

1. How does this section continue to unfold what Paul means in vv 1-2?
2. V 9 – “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.” What does it mean for love to be **genuine**, and how can we recognize the difference between true love and superficial kindness?
3. V 14 – “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.” How do we practically live this out when facing difficult people or situations where we’ve been wronged?
4. V 15 – “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” Do you think it can sometimes be harder to rejoice with others than to weep with them or vice versa? How does this verse challenge the way we build relationships?
5. V 19 – “Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God.” Why do we often struggle with letting go of justice and trusting God to handle things? How can we surrender our desire for revenge in a healthy way?

6. V 21 – “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” How does choosing good in the face of evil transform us, and what are some real-life examples where we’ve seen this principle in action?

REFLECT:

1. Of the commands in vv 9-21, which two are the easiest for you to keep? Which two are the most difficult? Why?
2. If you could have three wishes for your church, what would they be? What could you do now that would help make your dreams come true?