

Romans 12:9-13: Living As Christ—Part 1

Let love be without hypocrisy.

Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.

¹⁰ Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; ¹¹ not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; ¹³ distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Romans 12:9-13 (NKJV)

Love must be sincere.

Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in 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 the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:9-13 NIV

Day 1

Pray: Lord as I look at Your desire for godly character in these verses, give me the will to have these characteristics worked out in me so when I interact with those around me you will be glorified. Work the changes needed within me to transform me into Your image.

“Let love be without hypocrisy.”

1. Love in this verse is “agape”. Define agape.
2. The word *hypocrisy* comes from hypocrite. Look up the origin of hypocrite (Greek) and write what you discover.
3. Rewrite the sentence above using your own words from the definitions.
4. Pray about your discoveries.
5. Extra: Write out the characteristics of *agape love* from 1 Corinthians 14:4-8. Star the characteristics you have seen growing in your live and circle those in which you desire God to work out in you. PRAY!

“Abhor (hate) what is evil.”

6. Define *evil*. Also consider synonyms for evil.
7. Read Romans 1:28-31. In this list, is there anything that you either “approve of” or “dabble in”?
8. What are the consequences according to Romans 1:32?
9. What has God done for us in the following verses?
 - a. Colossians 2:13
 - b. 1 Thessalonians 5:23
 - c. Matthew 5:13

Day 2

Pray: Lord, in our weaknesses let your Spirit and character shine through.

“Cling to what is good.”

1. What is good and what characteristics describe that which is good according to the following verses:
 - a. John 10:11
 - b. Ephesians 2:10
 - c. Ephesians 4:28
 - d. Ephesians 4:29
 - e. Ephesians 6:7-8
 - f. Philippians 1:6
 - g. Philippians 2:13
 - h. Philippians 4:8
2. What stands out to you among these verses and why?

“Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love”

3. The Greek word for “kindly affectionate” is *philostorgos*. The root words are *philo* or *phileo* and *storge*. Look up the definition of these words.

4. The love in this verse is not “agape” but *Philadelphia*. Look up this definition

5. Rewrite this part of verse 10 with your definitions.

6. What does this look like lived out in the body of Christ?

“. . . in honor giving preference to one another.

7. What does it mean to “honor” someone? (Define honor.)

8. What does this look like in Philippians 2:3?

9. How is this seen among the members of the body from last week? (1 Corinthians 12:23-24)

10. Who are we to honor and why if noted?
 - a. John 5:34
 - b. Ephesians 6:2
 - c. 1 Timothy 5:3

Day 3

“. . . not lagging in diligence”

1. The KJV translates this phrase, “not slothful in business.” Rewrite this phrase in your own words. Think of definitions and synonyms.

2. What do you discover about diligence/slothfulness from the following verses?
 - a. Proverbs 12:24
 - b. Proverbs 21:5
 - c. 2 Timothy 2:15
 - d. Hebrews 4:11
 - e. 2 Peter 3:13-14

“Fervent in Spirit. . .”

3. Define fervent:

4. This phrase is also used in Acts 18:25. What resulted in Apollos being “fervent in spirit”?

“Serving the Lord”

5. In what ways can you “serve the Lord” in your current circumstances? How does He want you to serve Him as an
 - a. Employee: Ephesians 6:5-8

 - b. Boss: Ephesians 6:9

 - c. Mom: Ephesians 6:4, Proverbs 29:15

- d. Wife: 1 Peter 3:1-7, Proverbs 31:10-31 (These references could easily take a day of study. Read them and jot down what the Lord whispers to your heart.)

"Rejoicing in Hope"

6. What is the connection between hope and faith? See Hebrews 11:1

7. This phrase is seen in the following verses. What do you learn?
 - a. Romans 5:2
 - b. Hebrews 3:6

8. In what do you hope that can cause rejoicing?

Day 4

"Patient in Tribulation"

1. This can ONLY be done through the work of the Holy Spirit! What do you learn about tribulation's benefits from the following verses:
 - a. Romans 5:3-5

 - b. 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

- c. 2 Thessalonians 1:4-7

“Continuing steadfastly in prayer”

2. Define “steadfast.”

3. Jesus had a parable on this subject. Read Luke 18:1-8. Why was the prayer answered?

4. What do you learn about this from the following?
 - a. Colossians 4:2

 - b. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

 - c. Ephesians 5:18-19

5. What prevents you or can prevent you from “continuing steadfastly in prayer”? How can you combat this?

Day 5

“Distributing to the needs of the saints”

1. Distributing to whom for what?

2. Examples in Scripture:
 - a. 1 Corinthians 16:1-3 (Note how Paul advised them to do this.)

 - b. Acts 11:29

“Given to hospitality”

3. Define hospitality.
4. How are we to be hospitable according to 1 Peter 4:9?
5. In Hebrews 13:3 we are to be hospitable towards whom? What may occur?
6. How does Jesus view hospitality and its importance in Matthew 25:34-40?

Make these verses into a prayer for yourself, family and other believers.

Let love be without hypocrisy.

Abhor what is evil.

Cling to what is good.

Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love,

in honor giving preference to one another

not lagging in diligence

fervent in spirit

serving the Lord

rejoicing in hope

patient in tribulation

continuing steadfastly in prayer

distributing to the needs of the saints

given to hospitality.

Thoughts: None of us knows the limit of our days. God has them numbered. The question we need to ask ourselves is, “Am I living in such a way, that if I die now, I will be able to stand confidently before my heavenly in awe and worship?” Or, “Am I living in such a way that I would be ashamed to be before His throne and tremble in fear?”

Pray what is on your heart.