

ROMANS

TRANSFORMED!

MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH, DAN GILLETTE

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Real Christian love: firmly detesting the evil while clinging to the good

Where we've been: We must stay in the process of Romans 12:1-2!

The theme: real Christian love: firmly detesting the evil while clinging to the good (9).

Rom. 12:9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Questions to ask about loving the people of God (12:10, 13, 15-16).

1. Do I feel an affection for believers as exists in healthy family relationships (10a)?
Rom. 12:10a Love one another with brotherly affection.
2. Do I habitually express how significant believers are to me (10b)?
Rom. 12:10b Outdo one another in showing honor.
3. Do I pursue opportunities to share my possessions & space (13)?
Rom. 12:13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
4. Do I enter into the delights & sorrows of others (15)?
Rom. 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
5. Do I extend friendship regardless of social standing (16)?
Rom. 12:16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

Questions to ask about a loving disposition (12:11-12).

1. Is my serving characteristically enthusiastic (11)?
Rom. 12:11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.
2. Is my suffering characteristically hope-focused (12)?
Rom. 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Questions to ask about loving unbelievers (12:14, 17-21).

1. Do I long for the spiritual benefit of my antagonists (14)?
Rom. 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
2. Do I seek vengeance or honor in my response to evil (17)?
Rom. 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.
3. Do I do all within my power to live at peace with all (18)?
Rom. 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
4. Do I give grace to my antagonists while trusting God to convict them (19-20)?
Rom. 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 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."
5. Do I remember my stance against the evil & for the good (21)?
Rom. 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good

What do we do with all these questions?

1. Describe the relationship between Romans 12:1-2 and 12:9-21.
2. Which for me personally is tougher – to love believers or to love unbelievers?
3. In regard to loving believers, which question have I had more success with, and which have I found more difficult?
4. In regard to loving unbelievers, how would I answer these same questions?
5. What steps can I take to renew my mind in order to grow where needed?

SONGS

"Your Love Never Fails" - Brian Johnson, Christa Black Gifford, Jeremy Riddle

"Sovereign Over Us" – Bryan Brown, Aaron Keyes, Jack Mooring

"Lord You Are" – Valley Bible Worship

"Christ Be All Around Me" - David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$42,444.00
WEEKLY NEED: \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: \$707,939.00
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$699,580.00