

Practicing Christ-like Love

(Romans 12:9-21)

Intro: Paul, having called on every believer to offer or present their body to God as a living sacrifice (12:1-2), and discussing the principles governing the proper use of Spiritual gifts in the Body of Christ, the church (12:3-8); he next proceeds in verses 9-21 to issue a series of exhortations calling for *the continual exercise of Christ-like love* in every area of our Christian lives.

I. True Love Promotes The Positive (v. 9)

1. Let love be sincere and not hypocritical (v. 9a)
2. Love abhors evil, and clings to what is good (v. 9b)



II. True Love Fosters A Family Spirit (v. 10)

III. True Love Keeps On Keeping On (vv. 11-12)

1. not lagging behind in diligence (v. 11a)
2. fervent in spirit (v. 11b)
3. serving the Lord (v. 11c)
4. rejoicing in hope (v. 12a)
5. persevering in tribulation (v. 12b)
6. devoted to prayer (v. 12c)

IV. True Love Contributes To The Needs Of Others (v. 13)

V. True Love Ministers To One's Enemies (vv. 14-21)

1. Bless those who persecute you; bless and curse not (v. 14)
2. Paul next calls on believers to share one another's joys and sorrows v. 15
3. Be of the same mind toward one another (v. 16)
4. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone, respect all men (v. 17a)
5. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men (v. 18)
6. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God (v. 19)
7. Care for the needs of your enemy (v. 20)
8. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good (v. 21)

Conclusion: