




## Romans: The Family

Romans 12:3-8

Ray Cortese, September 15 & 16, 2018

### Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

### Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 When you marry someone you not only him/her, but you also get his/her family. Why is this a good analogy for becoming a Christian?
- 2 What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

#### THE FAMILY: SOBER SELF-APPRAISAL

- 3 *Do not think of yourself too much.* Do you think about yourself too much? What does our culture teach when it comes to “self-esteem”? How might your life look different if it were centered around God and His church?
- 4 *Do not think of yourself too highly.* Do you ever look down on others? Ray said, “Everyone is broken and desperate for Jesus.” What are the practical implications of living out that statement?

- 5 *Do think of yourself accurately.* Why is a Christian's view of self neither too high nor too low? Ray said that social media is a nonstop critique of other people. Do you have a critical spirit? What was the point of Ray's grocery cart illustration?

#### THE FAMILY: ONE BODY

- 6 Can you recall the story of Achan (Joshua 7)? What does that story illustrate about the interdependence of God's people?
- 7 Ray told two stories from 9/11. How do they apply to the church?

#### THE FAMILY: ZERO UNEMPLOYMENT

- 8 Do you think 20% of the people do 80% of the work at Seven Rivers?
- 9 Everybody is gifted. What is your gift? What are you good at? What burdens you? Why is there no hierarchy of gifts? Have you ever called out a gift in someone else? Has anyone ever called out a gift in you?
- 10 What was the point of the story about the two brothers caught in a flood?

### **Step 3: Final Reflections**

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?