




Romans: The Family

Romans 12:9-16

Ray Cortese, September 22 & 23, 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

- 1 Do you resemble anyone? A family member, a friend, a famous person?
- 2 In your own words how would you describe "agape" love?
- 3 Have you ever been guilty of being nice and polite on the outside, all the while despising someone on the inside?
- 4 What did Ray mean when he said, "In order to love, you have to hate"? How does this principal apply to parenting?
- 5 Do you think that living a life of love is easy or hard? Why?

- 6 Is it harder for you to weep with those who weep or rejoice with those who rejoice?
- 7 Jesus associated with the poor, the difficult, and the unlovely. Do you model him in that?
- 8 Does church ever feel like high school to you? How could you remedy that?
- 9 When was the last time you were the recipient of someone else's generosity? How might God be calling you to be more generous with your money, your time, your talents, or your resources?
- 10 When was the last time you experienced genuine hospitality? Is your family hospitable?
- 11 Why should experiencing the grace of God make you more loving?

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?