

1. **Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word
2. **Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word
3. **Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions without other outside sources

Lesson Twenty Five: Romans 12:9–21

April 6, 2005

In this section Paul is still addressing how believers are to offer themselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God (Rom. 12:1). Verses 9—21 address how we are called to treat one another.

1.
 - a) What must our love be according to verse 9?

 - b) What is your own personal definition for sincere?

 - c) How does the last part of verse 9, *Hate what is evil; cling to what is good*, reflect sincerity?

2.
 - a) How sincere is your love to other believers?

 - b) Name someone with whom you are being false. (You don't need to share this.)

 - c) How will you behave differently towards this person in order to be sincere? (Let this question become a true application of God's Word.)

3. There are nine expressions of sincere love listed in verses 10—13. Name each one and give an example of each one.

_____ Example:

_____ Example:

_____ Example:

_____ Example:

_____ Example:

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_____ Example:

_____ Example:

4. Verses 14—20 describe expressions of love that are the most difficult. What are we to do with people who persecute us?

Describe what that would look like with someone in your life.

5. What do you think *rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn* means from verse 15?
6. According to verse 16b we are to be willing to associate with people of low position and not be conceited. Who would you consider someone of low position (do not name specific names) and what effort have you made to associate with them?
7. Paul encourages us in verse 17 to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. a) How does this work when the world is made up of such diverse people with diverse beliefs?
- b) What line in this section lets us know that because you live right doesn't mean you will achieve peace with everyone?
8. If you have someone who truly wants to harm you and hurt you, what command and hope do you receive from verse 19?
9. Even though we don't seek revenge, this doesn't mean we do nothing. Explain what verses 20—21 would look like in modern day living as a positive expression of love to an enemy?

Going deeper:

10. a) Of all of these many expressions of love listed in verses 9—21, which is the hardest for you to express?
- b) Which one is easier for you and how have you expressed it?