

FIREPROOFING *your life*

Sermon Notes for 02.08.26 ~ Romans 12:9-16

Verse 9: Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **Verse 10:** Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

- Love must be sincere / authentic / genuine
- Be true to who you are! You are needed. You are wanted. You are loved.
- Put others above yourselves. Become self-less.
- Honor another's presence by giving your full attention.
- Accept another's perspective and practice empathy, putting yourself in the other's appropriate footwear.
- Respect another's personal space and privacy, building trust.

Verse 11: Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. **Verse 12:** Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

- Never be lacking in zeal. Zeal = great energy & enthusiasm and dedication to a cause, goal or activity.
- Consider how much energy you give in your relationships.

- Be joyful as you hope.
- Be patient even as you face afflictions, trials, and sufferings.
- Be faithful in prayer, even when it may be hard to know how to pray and what to pray.

Verse 13: Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. **Verse 14:** Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

- Respond to people who are in need.
- Be hospitable / "practice" hospitality.
- Think about those who feel mistreated / oppressed / victimized / and/or discriminated against because of their religious beliefs.
- Bless and do not curse. Avoid temptation to curse and/or to demonize the "other."

Verse 15: Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. **Verse 16:** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

- Think about verse 15 being an extension of verse 14. Rejoice and mourn appropriately!
- Live in harmony with one another. Associate and welcome those who are not like you – those who may think, speak, and look differently than you!
- Be humble, modest, meek, and unassuming in your demeanor.
- Allow your love of Christ to be put into action, honoring others above yourselves, and often putting others' needs above your own.