A college professor once told me that the theme of the whole Bible is helping us shift from selfishness to selflessness.

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

In the phases of Christian maturity, selflessness is the mark between spiritual children and spiritual young adults.

This kind of love wants the best for the other person. That means evil is out and being filled with the goodness of God is in.

From "Me" to "You" Romans 12:10-13

Verses 10-13 describe the young adult love that we should have for those within the Body of Christ.

"Be devoted"
"Give preference"
This mature love has taken
"me" out and
put "you" in.

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:11

This is aggressive love, guided by the Spirit and as unto the Lord.



This love hopes for the best, remains present through the hard times, and stays committed in prayer for the friend.

From "Me" to "You"

**Romans 12:13** 

This kind of love is involved sacrificially and practices hospitality.



From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:14-18

In verses 14-18 Paul is turning his attention to how we are to show mature love to those outside the faith.

From "Me" to "You"

**Romans 12:14** 

Speak blessings, not curses over those who seem bent on criticizing you and/or Christianity.

Be emotionally involved with those outside the faith in their good and bad times.



From "Me" to "You"
Romans 12:16

Do not carry an aura of spiritual superiority; don't act "to good" to associate with certain classes of people.

To not retaliate speaks volumes to the lost. To show honor and to strive to do the right thing is loving to others.

From "Me" to "You"

**Romans 12:18** 

Striving for peace with others is a hallmark of maturity and a demonstration of love.

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

Characteristics of a Spiritual Young Adult: •Serves others with joy



From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

**Characteristics of a Spiritual Young Adult:** 

- Serves others with joy
- Other-centered with humility

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

## **Characteristics of a Spiritual Young Adult:**

- Serves others with joy
- Other-centered with humility
- Sacrificing for others

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

Things you might hear a spiritual young adult say:



"I enjoy sitting with my friends during coffee fellowship, but when a guest steps in, I leave my friends and greet him."

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

"I usually sit in the same spot each Sunday morning. But if a guest sits in my spot, I would not dare ask them to move."

"I love my S. S. class, but I know there are others who need a group like mine. I'm willing to leave mine & help start a new class."

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

"I have a friend who would not relate to the worship service I attend. I will bring him to the other service and attend with him."

You expect spiritual infants to be dependent on others and ignorant of spiritual rhythms and the needs of others.

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

You expect spiritual children to be self-centered and lacking in spiritual disciplines that help them grow.

You expect spiritual young adults to have a handle on their spiritual growth and have their attention on the growth of others.

From "Me" to "You"

Romans 12:9-18

Have you put away infantile and childish behavior so as to serve the Lord as a spiritual young adult?