

## Romans 12

**Read:** Romans 12:1-21

### **Summary:**

As a society we are fascinated with observing relationships which surely is why so called reality TV is so popular. Relationships are a huge part of life and it is to this subject that Paul turns as soon as he moves away from doctrine to 'Practical Christianity':

#### *Relating to God*

Paul ended Romans 11 with the wonderful doxology....marvelling at the greatness of God, it is following this.... 'therefore' that we can relate to God. Our behaviour must come out of what we believe; we are to be living sacrifices, holy to God!

#### *Relating to Self*

All our gifts come from God and everyone has one! We need to know ourselves, accept ourselves and use our gifts for the common good. We must realise that we are radically changed we are in Christ!

#### *Relating to the Church*

As the church we are called to sincerely love one another. We are a body – not a train set! This can sometimes be difficult so we need to pray and ask for the Spirit's power, focus on our heavenly Father, remember Christian love is a growing thing and don't give up!

#### *Relating to the World*

Paul then gives instructions about how we relate to those outside the church: don't curse, repay anyone for evil, take revenge or be overcome by evil. Instead we are to bless, do what is right and serve our enemies! We are to overcome evil with good.

### **Application:**

1. Was there anything preached that needs clarifying to you?
2. What one thing did God say to you and what do you need to do as a result?
3. What do you find most difficult to accept about yourself? How do you overcome this?
4. Which of the 4 areas do you find easiest / most difficult in relating to and why?
5. What can you do as a cell to make it feel more like family than a meeting?
6. Write out some verses about who you are in Christ and see if you can memorise one a week for the next week weeks (test each other at cell!)

1 Corinthians 1:4

Romans 3:24

Galatians 2:17

Eph 4:32

Romans 8:1

2 Corinthians 5:17

Romans 6:23

Eph 1:3

Philippians 4:19

Colossians 1:28

Romans 8:32