

— Romans 12.9-13 —
Romans Series 79
Genuine Love 2

Rom 12.9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

*** Review**

*** Name six** characteristics of genuine love that Paul spells out for us? *[First two are a recap from last week]*

– **1) Genuine love** seeks the objective _____ of others, wanting them to come & remain under the _____ of God. Vs 9: “Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.”

– **2) Genuine love** is _____ & loyal to brothers & sisters in Christ. Vs 10: “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love”.

– **3) Genuine love** _____ out for the interests of others. Vs 10: “in honor giving preference to one another”

– Who is our example?

Phil 2.3 [W]ith humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped [i.e., clutched], 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 ... He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him (NASB)

– How does vs 3 square with vs 4?

– Is vs 6 saying that Jesus came to save us in spite of being God?

John 15.12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”

– What is the only basis for truly looking out for other’s interests, or loving your neighbor as yourself, or laying down one’s life for one’s friends, or living in accordance with Jesus’ words that “it is more blessed to give than to receive? (Acts 20.35)

– Apart from the life of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the more I commit to others in binding relationships and unions, the less of an _____

I become. But with the life of the Triune God as the foundation of all reality, the more I biblically commit and give to others in biblically binding relationships and unions, the more of an _____

I become. Modern people long for the love, blessing, and fulfillment that comes from these relationships and unions God designed, but they are incapable of rendering the _____ and _____ such relationships require by God’s design.

– **4) Genuine love** is _____ to serve. Vs 11: “not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord”.

– “not lagging in diligence”

– “fervent in spirit”

– “serving the Lord”

Rom 8.9 [I]f anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.
10 And if Christ is in you ... (also Acts 9.4; Mat 25.40, 45)

– 5) **Genuine love** is _____ and faithful.

Vs 12: “rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer”

1Cor 13.7 [Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails.

– “bears all things ... endures all things”

– “believes all things, hopes all things”

– “rejoicing in hope”

Rom 8.23 [W]e ... eagerly [a]wait for ... the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope ...

1John 3.2 [W]e know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Rom 5.2 [W]e ... rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

– “patient in tribulation”

Rom 8.28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son

– “continuing steadfastly in prayer”

Mat 6.8 “For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. 9 In this manner, therefore, pray: ‘Our Father in heaven ...’”

– 6) **Genuine love** looks for tangible ways to fill

_____ and encourage their brethren in Christ. Vs 13: “distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.”

Neh 8.10 “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength” ... 12 And all the people went their way to eat and drink, to send portions and rejoice greatly, because they understood the words that were declared to them.

* **All of this** flows from the life of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for which we were _____, and for which we were _____.

2Pet 1.3 [God’s] divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature ... (NAS)

Eph 3.19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.