

“Relationship: Loving When It’s Difficult”

Romans 12:14-16

Pastor Jim Oakley – February 24, 2019

WE MUST LOVE EVEN WHEN IT’S DIFFICULT.

1) LOVE BLESSES EVEN WHEN PERSECUTED (v. 14)

2) LOVE IS COMPASSIONATE AT ALL TIMES (v. 15)

3) LOVE STRIVES FOR HARMONY (v. 16a)

4) LOVE SERVES ALL (v.16b)

READ AHEAD FOR NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 1:1-14

Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER: Describe a time when someone loved you through a difficult time.

- 1) What’s your natural reaction when someone attacks you for your beliefs?
- 2) Read Matthew 5:44 and Luke 6:28. What does Jesus say we should do in that situation?
- 3) How do you suppose we can adopt this supernatural kind of reaction?
- 4) How do we reflect God’s character when we “rejoice with those who rejoice” and “mourn with those who mourn”?
- 5) How did Jesus “mourn with those who mourn”? (See John 11.)
- 6) How is Christian mourning different from how the world grieves? (See 1 Thessalonians 4:13.)
- 7) Who does the one another point to in verse 16?
- 8) What does it mean to live at “harmony with one another”?
- 9) How does our pride keep us from living in harmony?
- 10) Who would qualify in Paul’s day as “people in low position” and who would qualify today?
- 11) What is the end goal of associating with all people?
- 12) How does this passage encourage or challenge you to love differently?
- 13) How can we pray for you this week?