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## Romans: Theology 101

Love Wins™

Romans 12:14-21

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05-17-20

Introduction: We are working our way through the practical section of Paul's letters to the Romans.

1. Here he is focused on how we as followers of Jesus should conduct our lives.
2. His goal in this section is to help the church at Rome to function harmoniously as God intended.
  - He has pictured what this looks like.
  - He has explained how love is essential.
3. Today he builds on this. The reality he addresses is how challenging love is.
  - There are people who are easy to love.
  - Others are hard to love.
4. That hardness doesn't negate our responsibility; Christ called us to love even our enemies.
5. We all have difficult people in our lives; we are commanded to love them.
6. Here Paul gives us practical "how to" guidance.

### I. Be a Blessing

- A. The Meaning of Blessings
- B. The Focus of Blessings

### II. Promote Unity

- A. Share Life

### B. Practice Understanding

### C. Be Humble

### III. Forgive Often

#### A. Do the Next Right Thing

#### B. Pursue Peace

#### C. Defer to God

#### D. Overcome Evil

Conclusion: Think what this could mean & do for our church, our families, our relationships.

1. We have all met people who are the opposite of what we considered today.
2. They detract, they divide, they destroy. But people who bless, unify & forgive are powerful influencers in our lives.
3. Christianity by definition is a personal relationship with God & His people.
4. The more we bless, the more we promote unity, the more we forgive, the more attractive we & Christianity becomes.
5. God is love. Let us follow in His steps!