

# BELIEFS SHOULD IMPACT BEHAVIOR

# "Member of the Family"

"Being a Healthy Member of a Healthy Church" Romans 12:9-13

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1046.

In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text. Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

## REVIEW:

- Romans 12 give four metaphors of what the believer's life is like:
  - That of a Sacrifice on an Altar
  - That of a Part of a Body
  - That of a Member of a Family
  - That of a Soldier in an Army
- Eliminated distractions, honest evaluation, faithful cooperation, and individual participation are some of the traits of a health member of the body of Christ.
- Transformed Christians should realistically access the gifts God has given them, then use those gifts as part of Christ's body—the church.
- Refuse to procrastinate in service to the Lord—our earthly lives are so short and eternity is so long.



I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." - John 13:34-35, HCSB

### 1. We love by being sincere.

**Romans 12:9a, HCSB** - <sup>9</sup> Love [Gk: ἀγάπη (AH-ga-pay) is a God-given, self-sacrificing love] must be without hypocrisy [lit, 'to wear a mask', it referred to a street actor who wore a mask to portray a character in a play]... This is a controlling participial phrase and serves like a title to the passage.

**Romans 12:9b, NASB95** - <sup>9</sup> Let love be without hypocrisy. [The words, "let" and "be" are italicized—indicating they are not in the original Greek. They are added for clarity. The verse lit. says, "Love without hypocrisy."

### 2. Love must be discerning.

**Romans 12:9b, HCSB** - <sup>9</sup> Detest [Gk: ἀποστυνέω (ah-pos-tee-GER-o) used only here in the NT; it gives us our word *apostate*—the rejection of a belief; we are to reject *evil*; cling

[Gk: κολλάω (co-LOU-o) means 'to unite' and paints a picture of the act of marriage] to what is good [Gk: ἀγαθός (ah-ga-THOS) lit., 'the highest level of good').

"We cannot delight in what God detests." – Pastor Joe

### 3. We love with tender affection.

**Romans 12:10a, HCSB** - <sup>10</sup> Show family affection [Gk: φιλadelphia, (phil-adelphia), lit., 'tender affection owed to those born from the same womb'] to one another with brotherly love.

### 4. We must honor others.

**Romans 12:10b, HCSB** - <sup>10</sup> Outdo one another in showing honor.

### 5. Love must be enthusiastic.

**Romans 12:11, HCSB** - <sup>11</sup> Do not lack diligence; be fervent in spirit; serve the Lord.

**Romans 12:11, NLT** - <sup>11</sup> Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. ["The King's work requires haste." – Sir Edmund Burke]

### 6. Love must be patient.

**Romans 12:12, NASB95** - <sup>12</sup> rejoicing in [the] hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, [behind these three phrases lies the hope of our Lord's return].

### 7. Love must be generous.

**Romans 12:13a, NASB95** - <sup>13</sup> contributing [Gk: κοινωνέω (koin-oh-nia) means to share more than just in 'money'—this word means to share in the hurts and the heartbreaks; it's opening the pocketbook and the heart] to the needs of the saints,

### 8. Love must show hospitality.

**Romans 12:13b, NASB95** - <sup>13</sup> ... practicing hospitality. [the Gk. word means 'to show kindness to strangers', lit., *showing kindness to strangers*].

### 9. Love must be kind.

**Romans 12:14, HCSB** - <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless [Gk: εὐλογέω (eu-la-GEE-o) gives us our English word *eulogy*—meaning to *speak well of someone*] and do not curse.

### 10. Love must be sympathetic.

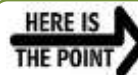
**Romans 12:15, HCSB** - <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. [Sympathy MUST be communicated to be sympathy.]

### 11. Love must be harmonious.

**Romans 12:16, NLT** - <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with each other.

### 12. Love must show humility.

**Romans 12:16b, NIV84** - <sup>16</sup> Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.



What the world (and the church) needs is for the love of God to be manifested and demonstrated by the people of God for the glory of God.

