

# ROMANS

XII - XV

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MISSION CAMPUS

SEPTEMBER 23 - 27, 2019

### INFO AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Men's Bible Study begins September 25. You can register online.
- Women's Bible Study started up this week, if you'd like to join, register online.
- Day of Prayer is the last Thursday of every month. Drop in at the Mission Campus anytime between 9am and 4pm and pray for those who have not yet placed their trust in Jesus.
- Seasons Luncheon is happening at the Downes Road Campus, September 27. Purchase your tickets at our Sunday morning services.
- New to Northview Lunch is coming up on October 6 at 12:30pm. RSVP online.
- Family Games Night is coming up on October 11 at 5:30pm. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbours! Let us know you are coming!

[www.northview.org](http://www.northview.org)

### OPENING DISCUSSION / ICE BREAKER

- Let's admit it, no one's perfect... so think of a time when you've faked liking someone to accomplish a goal. Have you ever pretended to like someone just to move a conversation along, or get something that you wanted? Ex. Being overly nice to a store clerk so that you can return an item you no longer like...

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for Community Groups as they start up. Would new people find belonging, old friends reacquaint and relationships deepen between people and the Lord.
- Pray for our outreach ministry: Mission Kids, that the children and families who've signed up for this year will attend with consistency and experience the love of Christ, coming to place their trust in Him as Lord and Saviour.

### LEADER NOTES

**Suggested Timing for a 2 hour meeting:**

**Connection:** 30 Minutes (visiting / snacks / announcements / ice breakers)

**Content:** 30 Minutes (Observation and Interpretation questions):

**Commission:** 10-15 minutes (Application questions)

**Care:** 15-30 minutes (Sharing and Prayer)

**Connection:** 15-30 minutes (visiting / snacks)

### LEADING SERMON-BASED DISCUSSIONS:

- Read the scripture passage(s) together as a group.
- Direct people back to the text if they are going on rabbit trails or talking about opinions and speculation, by asking, "Where do you see that in the text? What answer does the text provide for that question?"
- As you transition to prayer time, pray through the issues and ideas that the text brought up.

### ROMANS SERMON SERIES

Our Fall Sermon Series in Romans is highly practical! In Romans 1-11 Paul provides a theological framework for the Christian Faith. Now, in the final section of this letter, he gives the church in Rome specific examples of how this faith should be lived out.

**Benefits of this series:** It will feel highly practical for all of your group members. Romans 12-16 will force them to reflect on how their faith impacts their everyday life.

**Potential pitfalls of this series:** It is easy to fall into moralism and legalism when we focus on what we should and should not do if we are Christians. Keep this in mind! The sermon discussion questions will aim to remind us of the gospel truths behind each command.

# COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MISSION CAMPUS

## Observation

Observation (This section is aimed at helping people observe the details of the text: what is written, what words or ideas are repeated and emphasized, the text's structure and how this text fits into the wider context of the book of Romans)

1. Read Romans 12:9-11 together as a group.
2. What are the commands that are in these verses?  
*The whole passage consists of commands, take a moment to simply notice each one*
  - *Love sincerely, Hate what is evil, Cling to what is good, Be devoted to one another, Honour one another above yourselves, Never lack in zeal, Keep your spiritual fervour serving the Lord*
3. Verse 9 & 10 describe the characteristics of love, how is this picture of love more comprehensive or different than our picture of love?  
*Sincere, hate of evil, clinging to good, devotion and honour to others*
4. What two things should accompany serving the Lord?  
*Zeal and fervour*
  - a. What do each of these words mean?  
*Zeal :: great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective.*  
*Fervour :: intense and passionate feeling.*
5. Context: Look back to Romans 12:1-8. How do verses 9-11 expand on the idea of living as sacrifices and being a united body?  
*Remembering who we are loving (one another) & where it all comes from (the Lord)*

## Interpretation

This section is aimed at linking the current text to other texts or to the bigger biblical narrative. If you are running out of time, feel free to skip this section.

1. Read 1 John 4:7-21. How does this passage help us to better understand the love we are to give others? In what ways is this love first modelled to us from God?
  - *Love comes from God (v7)*
  - *Because God first loved us, we ought to love others, (v11,19)*

- *If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us (v12)*
  - *Whoever claims to love God, but hates his brother is a liar. Whoever doesn't love their brother or sister cannot love God (19, 20)*
  - *He has given us this command*
2. Read Revelation 3:14-21. The church in Laodicea is reprimanded for being lukewarm, which is evidence of their lack of zeal. What are the dangers of not being zealous for the Lord?

*The letter has grown lukewarm and the letter says that Jesus is about to "spit out of his mouth"*

## Application

This section is aimed at helping people apply what we have read in the text to our lives. It is intended to foster more open-ended discussion as people connect the text to their everyday life, and reflect on how it changes the way they think and act.

1. How might this understanding of love impact how you interact with others at church (note: These verses are geared specifically toward how we love each other in the church. In the coming weeks we will talk about how to love people in the world)?
2. How did this text challenge your actions or beliefs about being zealous for God and serving Him?

## RESOURCES FOR ROMANS

### Suggested Devotional / Personal Bible Study

#### Resources:

Romans For You (Tim Keller): A 2 Volume set  
[www.thegoodbook.com/romans-for-you-set](http://www.thegoodbook.com/romans-for-you-set)

#### Commentaries:

R.C. Sproul, Romans:  
An Expository Commentary, 2009.

Douglas Moo  
The Letter to the Romans (New International Commentary on the New Testament, 2018).

Douglas Moo  
Romans (The NIV Application Commentary Book 6)