

The Truth That Transforms: The Book Of Romans  
“Transforming Love”  
Cornerstone Church of Poway  
Pastor Ed Turley  
October 31, 2021

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." **John 13:34-35 (NIV)**

**Big Idea:** If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

**We Can Experience Transforming Love By:**

**1. Choosing A Higher Standard**

“**Love** must be **sincere**. **Hate** what is **evil**; **cling** to what is **good**.”  
**Romans 12:9 (NIV)**

Jesus said, “I know your deeds, your **love** and **faith**, your **service** and **perseverance**, and that you are now doing more than you did at first. Nevertheless, I have this against you: You **tolerate** that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her **teaching** she **misleads** my servants into **sexual immorality** and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.” **Revelation 2:19-20 (NIV)**

“Be **devoted** to one another in **brotherly love**. **Honor** one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your **spiritual fervor**, **serving** the Lord. **Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer**. **Share** with God's people who are in need. **Practice hospitality**.”  
**Romans 12:9-13 (NIV)**

“This is love: not that we loved God, but that He **loved us** and sent his Son as an **atoning sacrifice** for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also **ought to love one another**. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made **complete** in us.” **1 John 4:9b-12 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Becoming A Peacemaker**

“**Bless** those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **Rejoice** with those who rejoice; **mourn** with those who mourn. **Live in harmony** with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, **as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone**.” **Romans 12:14-18 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Letting Go Of Past Hurts

**“Do not take revenge**, my friends, but **leave room** for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome evil with good.**”

**Romans 12:19-21 (NIV)**

“But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. **Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me**, but **God intended it for good** to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.”

**Genesis 50:19-21 (NIV)**

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” **Romans 8:28 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ What does love require of me this week?

**To practice transforming love, I will:**

- [ ] Reach out to someone who needs love
- [ ] Write a note of encouragement to someone
- [ ] Pray for someone who has hurt me
- [ ] Sign up for Believer's Baptism Nov. 21

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

**Big Idea:** If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

**Open your group with a prayer.**

**Icebreaker:** As a child, who was the troublemaker in the family?  
Who was the peacemaker?

**Read John 13:34-35**

What level of love does Jesus request of us?

Why is this the most significant sign of a believer?

**We Can Experience Transforming Love By:**

**1. Choosing A Higher Standard**

**Read Romans 12:9**

Why does Paul mention love and then hate? How do they work together?

**Read Revelation 2:19-20**

What was the church of Thyatira commended for?

What did Jesus have against them?

Why is this significant?

**Read Romans 12:9-21**

How does love operate in the family of faith?

## **2. Becoming A Peacemaker**

### **Read Romans 12:14-18**

Which of these commands are the easiest to do?

Which of these commands are more challenging to you? Why?

How does love respond to those who antagonize?

How well do you do with empathy? Vs. 15

What does it mean to live in harmony? Vs. 16

What wisdom do you find in verse 18?

## **3. Letting Go Of Past Hurts**

### **Read Romans 12:17-19**

How am I to respond to mistreatment?

What does the writer mean to “leave room for God”?

Does forgiveness mean that we condone the sin?

How does this make it easier to understand forgiveness?

### **Read Genesis 50:19-21**

Help each other list the terrible things that has happened in Joseph’s life.

What was Joseph’s perspective of his mistreatment?

How did Joseph respond to their needs?

### **Read Romans 8:28**

Where have you seen God turn something that was bad into something that is good?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

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