

For Love's Sake!
(Romans 13:8-10)

Having discussed our relationship to God, fellow believers, non-Christians and government, Paul now emphasizes that all of these must be lived out in love. He helps us understand that this love is indispensable by explaining. . .

The Debt of Love (8)

- NATURE of the Debt

- PAYMENT of the Debt

The Description of Love (9)

- DETAILED Description

- SUMMARY Description

The Duty of Love (10)

- Stated NEGATIVELY

- Stated POSITIVELY

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Small Group/Family Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Share about a neighbor who has been a blessing to you.

Discussion Questions:

1. Share something from the study of Rom 13:8-10 that challenged you, brought a fresh insight or raised a question.

2. What does the statement in Rom 13:8 that “*he who loves another has fulfilled the law*” mean? (idea repeated in v.10)

3. How does the story of the Good Samaritan help us understand the kind of neighborly love that God desires in us?

4. Why is it difficult to love others as we love ourselves? What can we do to be more consistent in loving others this way?

Small Group Prayer

Each person begin by asking God to help you “abound in love toward one another and toward all men.” (1Thes 3:12)

Digging Deeper

1. What do the following verses teach us about the importance of our love for fellow Christians, AND for non-believers also? – Gal 6:2, 10; 1 Thes 3:12; Jn 13:34-35; 17:20; 1 Jn 3:16-18 and 4:10-11.

2. What does James mean by the “royal law” and the “law of liberty” in James 2:8-13? Study this passage and jot down observations.

3. How do each of the 10 commandments (Ex 20:1-17) correspond to the greatest statement in Matt 22:36-40? Consider also Matt 7:12.

For next week

Read Romans 13:11-14 several times and jot down your observations and questions concerning this passage. Do any other related passages come to mind as you consider Romans 13:11-14?