

**“Overcoming Evil With Good”
Romans 12:17-21**

Paul is writing to a group of believers in Rome who were facing increasing hostility for their faith in Christ. Our text today provides God’s counsel on how we should respond to such treatment, or to anyone who is antagonist toward us.

- Pursue Peace (17-18)
- Trust God (19)
- Do Good (20-21)

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Share about an encounter you had with a bully when you were a child, or tell about the neighborhood bully.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it so natural to want to retaliate when someone hurts us?
2. Romans 12:17 mentions how we are viewed “in the sight of all men.” Why should we be concerned about what people think about us? How can this concern get out of balance?
3. Romans 12:18 exhorts us to “live peaceably with all men” if possible. How can we be sure we’ve done our part to promote peace when someone remains antagonistic toward us?
4. What does it mean to “give place to God’s wrath” and why is this so important to do?
5. Share an example in our day-to-day life in which we can apply the principle of Romans 12:20-21.

Digging Deeper

What do the following verses teach us about showing grace and love to those who have wronged us: 1 Sam 24:12-19; Matt 5:38-47; 7:12; Lk 23:34; Rom 12:17-21; 1 Cor 4:12; 13:4-7; 1 Thes 5:15; 1 Pet 2:21-23 & 1 Pet 3:9.

Think of someone in your circle of relationships with whom you have conflict. Maybe they are antagonistic toward you or just difficult to love. What tangible deed of kindness and love will you do for them this week? Re-read the above verses to help spark ideas. **AS MUCH AS DEPENDS ON YOU** live peaceably with all men. (Romans 12:18)