



## Romans 12:9-21 | Dr. Stan Fowler *September 21, 2008*

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*“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

*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. 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.”*

1. Try to identify a specific situation in which you were called to show love in each of the following ways:
  - Honouring another person rather than yourself.
  - Showing hospitality to someone in need.
  - Rejoicing with another person who was experiencing delight.
  - Weeping with another person who was suffering.
  - Associating with someone whom you would rather ignore.
  - Responding peacefully to someone who treated you badly.

When you were in those situations, did you consciously recognize that they were occasions for love? How so?

2. Are you facing any challenging opportunities for love right now? What are they? What do you need to do?
3. How is Christ’s demonstration of love (see Ephesians 5:1-2) an example for you to follow? What are the implications of this passage?