

## The Exemplary Christian

Sermon Summary: In Romans 12:9-13, we're challenged to embody genuine love as exemplary Christians. This passage urges us to hate evil, cling to good, and honor one another above ourselves. The central theme is the transformative power of Christ-like love in our relationships and communities. We're called to view fellow believers as family, mirroring the devotion seen in first-century households. This perspective shift invites us to outdo one another in showing honor, a concept that beautifully contrasts with our often individualistic culture. As we reflect on this, we're encouraged to tap into God's endless resources of love, allowing His Spirit to empower us in loving even those who irritate us. This message reminds us that true Christian love is active, zealous, and persevering - a love that reflects God's own character and transforms both the giver and receiver. The sermon underscored the importance of giving as an act of worship—recognizing God's generosity and trusting in His provision—while also extending generosity and hospitality to others, reflecting a Christ-like love that perseveres even amidst challenges.

Scripture Reference: Romans 12:9-13

### Discussion Questions:

1. How do you interpret the command to let love be genuine as described in Romans 12:9?
2. How can we find a balance between striving to be exemplary Christians and resting in God's grace?
3. What does being devoted to one another in brotherly affection look like in practical terms?
4. The sermon discussed being joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer, especially during difficult times. How have you experienced these aspects during a challenging period, and what helped you persevere?
5. How might our understanding of being part of God's 'household' change the way we relate to fellow believers?
6. The sermon discussed giving as an act of worship in the context of recognizing and honoring God's generosity towards us. How does this influence your view on giving and hospitality?
7. What are some creative ways we can contribute to the needs of others and practice hospitality in our current circumstances?