

LESSON #16 APPLICATIONS IN SERVICE AND RELATIONSHIPS Romans 12:3-21

Principle: Transformed lives will be reflected in our service to God and our relationships with others.

Use this lesson outline to record your notes as you watch the Lesson 16 video.

I. TRANSFORMED IN SERVICE TO GOD 12:3-9

- The Christian needs to know how God has gifted him and use the gift diligently.

II. TRANSFORMED RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE CHURCH 12:10-13

- Sincere love should govern our relationships with other believers, not because we are like them but because we are committed to them in Christ.

III. TRANSFORMED RELATIONSHIPS WITH ENEMIES 12:14-21

- The believer's resource against his enemy is the indwelling, transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON #17 TRANSFORMED CHARACTER AND AUTHORITY Romans 13:1-14

Subject: The Christian's obligation is submission to authority and readiness for Christ's return.

Please answer these lesson questions for next week prior to watching the Lesson 17 video.

Review

1. Was there anything given in the lecture or the lesson last week that made a difference in your thought life, your service to God or your relationships with others?

Read Romans 13:1-7 The Christian's attitude toward authority

2. State some of the principles given about civil authority in these verses, including the purpose of government.
3. Find several reasons Paul gives why we should submit to our governing authorities.
4. What are some of the difficulties that have arisen over the years from Paul's teaching on the Christian's responsibility to civil authority?
5. Does this passage answer any of the issues from question 4 for *you*?
6. How does your thinking need to change to come into line with the teaching of Romans 13:1-7? Include also your behavior.
7. Irrespective of the type or quality of government over you, what are some ways you can be obedient to the principles given in this section of Romans 13?
8. From the following references what are some additional authorities God has put over us?
 - a. Ephesians 6:5-8, Colossians 3:22 -
 - b. Ephesians 6:9b, Colossians 4:1 -
 - c. Ephesians 5:21 -
 - d. 1 Timothy 5:17 -

- e. Ephesians 6:1-3, Colossians 3:20 -
 - f. Colossians 3:19, Ephesians 5:22 -
 - g. Ephesians 5:24a -
9. What difference do you think it would make if we were to live in submission to the various authorities God has put over us? Think in terms of family life, church life, the work place, society in general, etc.
10. Why do you think it is so difficult to submit to authority of any kind? What are some of the reasons people give for refusing to submit to authority?

Read Romans 13:8-14 The Christian life in light of Christ's return

11. How does Paul connect his thoughts in verses 8-14 with what he has previously written in chapter 13?
12. From Paul's explanation, how is love the fulfillment of the law?
13. What should be our underlying motivation for obedience and how would it work to motivate us?
14. Try to explain clearly and practically how we can clothe ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Review and Personal Application

15. In view of Romans 13, what changes need to be made in *your* attitude or actions? What will you do to begin to make those changes?