Romans Lesson 21 (2018)

**THE INGREDIENTS OF LOVE**

Romans 12:9-21

Key Verse: 12:9

**Open it:**

1. What might a friend do to you that you would have trouble forgiving?

**Explore it:**

1. What general principles is Paul most concerned about here? (9, 18) What is the difference between “sincere” and “insincere” love? (9, see also 1 Jn. 3:16-18)
2. What examples does Paul give in this passage of what it means to be “devoted to one another in brotherly love”? (10) How are we to respond to those who mistreat us? (14, 17. 18, 19, 20, 21)
3. Read verse 12. What knowledge helps us to be “patient in affliction”? (see Ro. 5:2-5; 8:18, 23-25)
4. Why does Paul specify that we are to share with “God’s people” who are in need? Shouldn’t we share with everyone? (see Gal. 6:10) How does this command compare with 2 Thessalonians 3:10?
5. How does the Christian view of hospitality differ from the world’s view? (13; see also Lk. 14:12-14)
6. What knowledge helps us from taking revenge on those who mistreat us? (19; see also Lk. 6:35-36; Ro. 2:9-11) In your own words, what is Paul saying we should avoid in verse 21? What should we do instead?

**Apply it:**

1. Of the commands listed in verses 9-21, which you do you find relatively easy to keep? Which are more difficult? Do you truly “hate what is evil”, or only those evils which others commit against you?