

# COLLECTIVE

June 23-24, 2018

## LOVE IS THE STRATEGY V

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### ROMANS 12 (MSG)

Recap of what we learned last week.

- i. **We love God** because **He first loves us.**
- ii. **We love people** because **we love God.**
- iii. **We love life** because **we love God and people.**

*Loving God but not people is incomprehensible.*

*Loving people but not God is unsustainable.*

*Loving life is the unmistakable proof that we love God & people.*

### Proverbs 5:18

### Romans 12:9-21 (NIV)

In the **NIV**, there is a subtitle and it is **love in action**. As believers we need to awaken to this.

**v9 - Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good.**

Love sincerely from your heart. Love without hypocrisy. Be real.

Develop a habit to build up and sustain your relationship with God/your wife/your children.

**v10 - Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.**

**v11 - Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master,**

Don't burst off the block. Keep pace. Ensure sustainability. Pursue health. Design today to thrive tomorrow.

**v12 - cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.**

Believers are **not immune to setbacks and disappointments.**

**v13 - Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.**

To be inventive is to be **original**, to creatively design something.

**Hebrews 13:2** - Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

**v14 - Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath.**

**v15 - Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down.**

**v16 - Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.**

Use all our energy to get along not get even. Don't impose.

**v17 - Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone.**

When it comes to praises, make it public.

When it comes to admonishing, make it private.

**v18 - If you've got it in you, get along with everybody.**

You will never get to a place where everybody likes you. Live with it. Just make sure you love everyone!

**v19 - Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."**

Once again, don't get even. Get along!

**v20 - Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness.**

Whenever you feel like wanting to avenge yourselves, be generous! Give! Bless!

**v21 - Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.**