

ally, physically, and financially? Would those at church say I'm *devoted* to them? Am I characterized by enthusiasm for Jesus and His church? If not, how can I become more diligent and fervent? What are some practical ways I can show love towards others at ABC?

15. How can we pray for one another this week?

### Quotes to Ponder

*One of the most important functions of the church ... is the maintenance of the local congregation where believers in Christ, gathered together in Him, can know one another intimately and can fulfill the deep need that is in each of us to move in love one for another.*

Donald Grey Barnhouse

*The essence of love is not to concentrate on our own image, position, and needs, but on the needs of others.*

Timothy Keller

*The Christian church is the one place on earth where it should be possible to trust one another's love and loyalty without being hurt.*

Jim Phillip

*Honoring someone is treating them with your deeds and words as worthy of your service. They may not be worthy of it. But you can do it anyway.*

John Piper

*The temptation to "lose steam" in our lifelong responsibility to reverence God in every aspect of our lives, to become lazy and complacent in our pursuit of what is "good, well pleasing to God, and perfect," is a natural one—but it must be strenuously resisted.*

Douglas Moo

*Believers are to burn and seethe in their spirits, but the means by which this is done is the power of the Holy Spirit.*

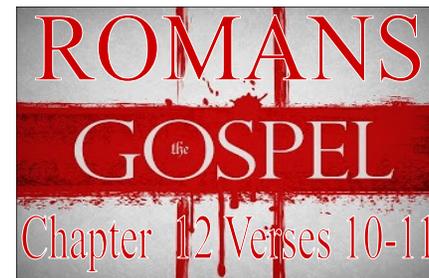
Thomas Schreiner

*We clear away the ashes. We cannot give the fire but we can put away the things that put the fire out.*

Micheal Eaton

*Serving Christ is the highest privilege in the universe for human beings.*

John Piper



Message #95: Loving Without Hypocrisy

October 30, 2016

## Sermon Notes

**1. Devoted to one another in brotherly love**

**2. Give preference to one another in honor**

**3. Not lagging behind in diligence**

**4. Fervent in spirit**

**5. Serving the Lord**

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

*John 9:4* —

*2 Thessalonians 3:13* —

2. How does this text/sermon apply to your everyday Christian life?

*1 Corinthians 15:58* —

*Hebrews 6:11-12* —

3. What do these verses say about our love for one another?

*1 Thessalonians 4:9-10* —

*1 Peter 1:22* —

4. Is it possible to biblically love other people even if there are no emotional feelings toward them? Explain.

9. Why is it so easy to be lazy about serving the Lord?

5. What are some ways in which we can stoke the fire of love for others in our church family?

10. Why is it crucial to keep in mind the distinctions between volunteers and slaves?

6. What does Paul mean when he tells us to *give preference to one another in honor* (*Romans 12:10*; cf. *Philippians 2:2-4*)?

11. What kinds of problems can occur when people think they're serving the Lord but are actually serving themselves?

7. Think of someone whom you find it hard to honor above yourself. Why is this difficult for you? How should you pray about this?

12. Is serving the Lord with diligence and fervency dependent on where or how you are serving? Explain.

8. What do the following verses say about not *lagging behind in diligence* and being *fervent in spirit*?

13. Why is the proper motivation essential in serving the Lord? What happens when we serve with the wrong motives?

14. Personal Reflection: Do I have family-like relationships at ABC? Do I miss my church family when I'm out of town or separated from them? Am I able to express my love for others at church verbally, emotion-