



PART 15: FAMILY TIES

Reading Romans is like the experience of a man groping in a dark church tower who reaches out to grab whatever he can – and grasps the rope that rings the bell that wakes up the entire community.

~ Karl Barth

The New Testament knows nothing about a theology that remains on the theoretical level. All theology, all teaching about God, has implications for life, for when we learn about God, we learn about ultimate reality. In Romans 12, Paul makes it clear that the moral life of the Christian grows directly out of the theology of the gospel.

~ Douglas J. Moo

In the New Testament religion is grace, and ethics is gratitude.

~ F. F. Bruce

Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its mould.

~ J. B. Phillips

The love we are to have for one another – the love that Paul describes in Romans 12 – never stands aloof from other people's joys or pains. Love identifies with them, sings with them and suffers with them. Love enters deeply into their experiences and their emotions, their laughter and their tears, and feels solidarity with them, whatever their mood.

~ John Stott

One of Paul's most powerful images for explaining the combined unity and diversity of the church is that of the body; and Romans 12 is one of the classic passages on the subject.

~ N. T. Wright

Paul's ethic is not for isolated individual Christians, but rather it is a community-forming ethic.

~ Ben Witherington III

Christians are unavoidably tied to each other.

~ Douglas J. Moo

Love of others – love especially of enemies – is a key test of the reality of a living sacrifice.

~ Kenneth Boa

It is certain that Paul regarded love as the pre-eminent and finally only necessary command.

~ Craig C. Hill

I am not ashamed of the gospel.

~ The Apostle Paul