

Noticeboard

**Wed 8th Feb at 7.30pm,
here at Emmanuel
Sue and John Wilson**

will tell us something about God's heart for the continent. They will share exciting news about the growth of the Gospel in France and talk about the many opportunities they are facing.

Foodbank needs are:

- * Tinned Corned Beef
- * Savoury snacks such as crisps
- * Long Life cartoned milk
- * Toilet Rolls
- * Washing up liquid

If you see any Health & Safety issues or any repairs needed around the church building, please let the church office know or contact Rick Cookman roderick@cookman.me.uk

Our next Church Members Meeting will take place on Tues Feb 28th. At this meeting we need to appoint a new treasurer following Justin's stepping down due to work commitments. Jeff Mount who has been acting as interim treasurer is willing to be nominated for the role of deacon/treasurer, but of course other nominations are welcome by Sunday 19th Feb

Craftea are Meeting again

THIS Tues afternoon 7th Feb 2-4pm in the front foyer area of the church.

Food for Thought This Thurs 2nd Feb at 2.30pm. Guest Speaker is Nigel Bird

House Groups are important to the Church Life. Small groups are an ideal way to get to know one another on a deeper level. If you are interested in joining a group see Doreen Fraser

Sunday 5th February

10.30am Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.

Main Door Lynne Pellow

Inner Door Rick & Mel Cookman

Easy Worship Sue Wilson

Coffees Before & After Service Chris & Kristine Trueman

Sunday 29th January 2017

10.30am **Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**
A warm welcome to you all. We would love to get to know each other better, so please introduce yourself. If you can, join us for refreshments after the service.

11am **Children and youth groups leave**
Parent and Baby Room available with a visual link to the service.
Nippers: Age 2-4 (Parents please collect your children at 12:00).
Buzz: Reception to Year 6
Salt: Year 7 and up (meets in the Power House)

Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry Team wear ministry badges. Please speak to one of them if you would like prayer for any reason.

The Church office

Open Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm

Telephone 01326 315249

Email mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

Website www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk

Minister Rev'd Charles Blizzard

Sermon outline notes: Romans 12: 9-21 An Analysis of Love

Introduction

At first sight these verses seem to be a random collection of statements, which appear to be about 'this and that'. However it is unusual for Paul not to have a logical structure to what he is saying and so I want to suggest that the key to understanding verses 9–21 is found right at the beginning where Paul writes 'love must be sincere', and that these verses are an analysis of the meaning of Christian love.

1) Love must be genuine: verse 9

- Sincere—literally unhypocritical; it must not be a piece of theatrical, or motivated by desire to impress other people or to manipulate them.
- Genuine love entertains no illusions about the object of love. It is morally discriminating- 'hate what is evil, cling to what is good'. Love never silences our conscious, it never prejudices our moral judgements.

2) Love is affectionate: verse 10

- The Greek word translated by our word 'devoted'. Is the standard Greek word for love within the family. It is a word which burns with passionate feeling.
- There are two practical ways how this devotion will show itself. The first is generosity, verse 13, the second is sympathy, verse 15.

3) Love is enthusiastic: verses 11–12

- Paul here is thinking about what it means to love God.
- Love for Christ must show itself in passionate commitment to his service— what Paul calls here 'keeping your spiritual fervour,' and 'never be lacking in zeal.'
- There are three components to this fervour and zeal—be joyful in hope, be patient in afflictions, be faithful in prayer.

4) Love is humble

- Verse 10: Paul here is speaking about courtesy, the desire to demonstrate the respect in which we hold other people by giving them preference.

- Verse 16 'Do not be a snob' Paul is saying. Be willing to associate with lowly people or to do a menial task.
- Verse 16 The Christian community should be controlled by a desire for consensus.
- Verse 18 The Christian is a person of peace
 - sensitive to the opinion of others, verse 17
 - forgiving the injuries done to them by others, verses 14, 17, 19
- There are two reasons why we should forgive the injuries that others cause us:-
 - a) revenge is illegitimate— retribution is God's prerogative.
 - b) revenge is ineffective— the only way to destroy your enemy is to make him/her your friend.

Preparation for next week

Please study Romans 13: 1– 7. Consider the following questions.

- 1) Why do you think Paul is addressing this issue?
- 2) Verse 2 - Are there any exceptions to this? What about Hitler, Stalin Pol Pot, etc. What does it mean to rebel?
- 3) What do you think Paul means by the phrase 'matter of conscience'?
- 4) Verse 7 Put in your own words what Paul is saying here.

NOTES