

 **Before We Begin...check the original map...**



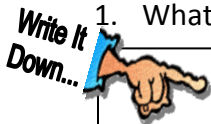
Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.^a Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,”^b says the Lord. On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”^c Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

^a16 Or willing to do menial work ^b19 Deut. 32:35 ^c20 Prov. 25:21, 22

 **Let’s get in gear...**

If you had the power to completely eliminate one form of evil the world, what would it be?

 **Exploration... Discovery... Revelation...**



1. What general principles is Paul most concerned about here? (vv. 9, 18)

2. What is the difference between "sincere" and "insincere" love? (v. 9; see also 1 John 3:16-18)

3. What examples does Paul give in this passage of what it means to be "devoted to one another in brotherly love" ? (v. 10)

4. How are we to respond to those who mistreat us?

v.14	v.17
v.18	v. 19
v.20	v.21

5. What does it mean to "Bless those who persecute you"? (v. 14) What kinds of people does this apply to?

6. What knowledge helps us to be "patient in affliction"? (v. 12; see Romans 5:2-5, 8:18, 8:23-25)

7. Why does Paul specify that we are to share with "God's people" who are in need? (v. 12) Shouldn't we share with everyone? (see Gal. 6:10)

8. How does this command compare with 2 Thessalonians 3:10?

9. How does the Christian view of hospitality differ from the world's view? (v.13; see also Luke 14:12-14)

10. What knowledge helps to keep us from taking revenge on those who mistreat us? (v.19; see also Luke 6:35-36; Romans 2:9-11)

11. In light of the previous question, if God can take revenge, then why can't we? (v.19)

12. In your own words, what is Paul saying we should avoid in verse 21? What should we do instead?

What do you think? Some "food" for thought...

- Do you truly "hate what is evil," or only those evils which others commit against you?
- How do pride and conceit conflict with brotherly love? With peace?
- Of the commands listed in verses 9-21, which do you find relatively easy to keep? Which are more difficult?

The JOURNEYMEN

“We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said,
I will give it to you: come with us, and we will do you good...”

-- Numbers 10:29

As we complete this part of the Journey...

A prayer for your journey... Note that this prayer has two parts: The first is for preparation and the second is for a demonstration of your faith.

“As I walk through this coming week, help me prepare for my journey by reading my Bible more regularly, seeking help as I need it from my Christian friends and focusing on the needs of others instead of myself.

Help me to demonstrate my faith by stepping boldly into the unknown, untried, and untested areas of my life. I pray in the name of Jesus”

-Amen