

Parson to Person

ROMANS 12 PART 5

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord. Therefore ‘If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Romans 12:9–21 NKJV).

Today is Mother’s Day 2021, and as is customary here at Candlelight we love to honor all women and mothers on this glorious day.

In times past I would present flowers to all the women—but with special emphasis on mothers with the most recent child, grandmothers with the greatest number of grandchildren, etc. However, I have also noted that Mother’s Day is a difficult day for those who have wanted a child and were not or have not been able, have lost children, grandchildren, or have simply been in pain watching their children make harmful decisions that injure themselves and those around them. Therefore, some years back I put the following prose together, and we opted to honor all women by recognition and the distribution of flowers to every female among us.

Mother’s Day Blessings

To those who are pregnant with new life – expected or surprised – we celebrate with you.

To those who celebrated a child this year – we rejoice with you.

To those who serve their kids each day – we appreciate you.

To the women in waiting – we wait with you.

To those who walk the path of childlessness, tears, and disappointment – we hurt with you.

To those who’ve lost a child this year – we mourn with you.

To those who’ve adopted a child in need – we bless you.

To those who foster children, mentor kids, and invest in the spiritual lives of God’s little blessings – we serve with you.

To those who have warm and healthy relations with your children – we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heartache, or distance – we weep with you.

To those who’ve lost a mother – we mourn with you.

To those who parent the children of a spouse – we support and commend you.

We celebrate the life and blessings of a Holy God. Whatever your circumstance—be it good or what we perceive as bad—we trust the Lord with you.

This Mother’s Day, we send our deepest love—to mothers, those in waiting, grandmothers, great grandmothers—to all.

We love you, appreciate you, and ask God’s best upon you. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

I love you all,

Pastor Paul