

What you'll do this week: learn something from the Bible, pray together, do a status check on your service project(s), make a commitment to just do it!

Accountability check in: how did you live out the part of verse 13 you committed to from last week?

Read **Romans 12:14-16** from at least 3 different Bible translations.

1. What consistent words did you hear from verse 14? Discuss what you know about Paul (the writer of Romans). Paul's entire ministry was conducted under persecution, often severely so. Does his personal experience give more credibility to this verse? How? Discuss this statement: "Refraining from cursing our enemies is not too difficult, but to bless, to pray that God would bestow upon them His favor and grace is much harder. Doing so is tough, but it is what love means."<sup>1</sup>
2. When someone else gets the raise, promotion, recognition, etc. you thought you were getting can you still "rejoice" (vs. 15) with them? What are the most effective ways you have found to "mourn with those who mourn"?
3. Did you notice how "living in harmony" (vs. 16) relates to verses 9, 10, and 13? The word "harmony" has a musical application. Ask a person who understands musical terms to explain it. If no one in your group knows, look up the definition online. How does that further understanding help you grasp verse 16?
4. Without naming names, think of a conceited person you know (or know of). What does their conceit convey and how does it affect community and/or relationships?
5. Find one point from this discussion that you can apply (an action you can take) this week. Just do it!

<sup>1</sup>RC Sproul, St. Andrews Expository Commentary, Romans, page 426

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