



FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 24

WEEKLY WORD

Read Romans 12:9-21

If you did not do the Weekly Walk from last week, it may be helpful to read Romans 12:1-8 before reading this week's text. Before this week's verses, Paul talks about not conforming to the ways of the world but being transformed by the renewing of your heart and mind. All of that transformation comes out of our relationship with Jesus and the freedom he gives us to be children of God. So this week, Paul talks about how that transformed life may look, the markers of a *life in Christ*.

WEEKLY CHEW

Please wrestle with these questions during the week and feel free to offer your thoughts or questions on our LIVING WATERS LUTHERAN CHURCH SR WEEKLY WALK page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/251008952628293/>.

1. Paul offers quite a laundry list of exhortations...ways to live out the transformed life in Christ. If you had to sum up that list in a word or two, what would you say?
2. From verse 9, Paul talks about a genuine or authentic love. What does that mean to you? You may be able to have a better understanding of what that means to Paul by reading some of his other discourses about love.
See: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and Romans 13:8-10.
3. In the original Greek, Paul uses 2 different words for LOVE. In verse 9, he uses *AGAPE*, which is like God's selfless, sacrificial love. In verse 10 he uses *PHILIO*, which is more of a familial sort of love. Why do you think he didn't use *AGAPE* in verse 10?
4. Re-read the list of exhortations from Paul. Pause after each one. Do some inner listening as you do this and ask yourself if each one feels the same, stirs up the same response inside. Are there some of these exhortations that feel more challenging? Are there some that seem to have too great a personal cost?
5. Had Paul lived today, with all that's going on in the world and in our country, what other exhortations might he have included in the list?

WEEKLY PRACTICE

As you go through the week, consider the ways you show love. Do a little inner inventory, discerning the type of love you are giving in various situations and settings. Agape? Philio?

PRAAYER

God of love and grace. Sometimes I lose sight of the unconditional love you have for me. Sometimes I doubt it is really possible. Sometimes I take it for granted. Help me to be mindful of your *AGAPE* for me and help me to reflect that love in my life. Amen.



**“Let LOVE be genuine;
hate what
is EVIL
hold fast to
what is good;
Love one
another
with
mutual
affection...”**