

## Small Group Study Guide

### “Love Without Hypocrisy—Part 2”

Romans 12:14-16

Pastor Chad Nieuwendorp

#### Relate

Discuss how you have experienced God’s blessing this Christmas and what each of you are hopeful for.

#### Review

Read Romans 12:9-16 together.

Love without hypocrisy is the theme Pastor Chad has emphasized through this passage. How do you see this kind of genuine love in each command?

Verse 14 talks about blessing those who persecute us. How does Jesus’ instructions in Mt 5:44 and Luke 6:28 add to understanding this?

What are some reasons why people find it difficult to fully join in the emotions of others? Are these legitimate reasons?

Verse 16 is summarized as, be humbly occupied with others. How does this work in relationship to our view of self and how we relate to others?

#### Dig

What may Paul (Saul) have observed about how to treat those who bring persecution in Acts 7:54-60? How can we respond to persecution or difficult people?

What is said about Timothy’s reputation as it relates to selfishness and focus in Philippians 3:19-22?

How do 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 and 2:8-11 relate to the main points in our Romans text?

What does Proverbs have to say about wisdom and pride? Some examples can be found in Proverbs 26:5, 12, 16; 28:11; 3:7. What others?

Wrestle with this: How is persecution or adversarial relationships handled in Psalms? What can we learn for good? What should be different for a New Testament believer?

#### Live

How might you be “carried away with the lowly” during the holidays and beyond?

How will you focus on Christ during this holiday season? How will you focus on Christ every day?