**Romans 12:10-12 Catalysts for a closer family - Leader Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. In one minute or less, tell the group about the family you grew up with when you were 10 years old. Where did you live? Are your parents still alive? How many brothers or sisters do you have? Where are you in the birth order? Do you stay in contact with each other?**

**2. What was your role in family? (peacemaker, comedian, black sheep, responsible one, etc)**

**3. Who was/is the strongest catalyst for positive change in your family?**

**BOOK – Read Romans 12:10-12:**

**10Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.**

**11Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.**

**12Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.**

**“Be devoted to one another in love.”**

**4. Read Philippians 2:4. Is it selfish to look after your interests?** (Self-care is appropriate and not sinful, unless it’s the only thing we care about).

**5. How does focused attention on others communicate love to them?**  (When you give someone your undivided attention, you’re affirming their value as a person.)

**6. Read James 1:19. What does devotion to one another require of us?** (to listen more closely to others)

**7. Is it harder to love after someone close to you hurts you or if an acquaintance hurts you? Why?**

**“Honor one another above yourselves.”**

**8. What words or actions express honor? Read 1 Peter 3:9 to get you started on some ideas.**

(Giving a blessing, respect, words of encouragement, praise, thanks, unconditional acceptance, focused couple time, etc.)

**9. When’s the last time you went out on a date? What message did you communicate to your spouse on the date?**

 **“11Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”**

**10. What tends to diminish your spiritual fervor? What fans the flame?**

**11. How are you doing in setting a spiritual example for others in your family?**

 “**12Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”**

**12. Share a story in which your family grew closer together through affliction.**

**13. How do you inject hope into your family? What is giving your family great joy these days?**

**TOOK**

**14. What are you praying most for in your family these days?**

**15. How can Lent be a time of getting rid of those things that diminish your spiritual fervor and adding things to fan the flame of your relationship with God?**

**Support one another by praying for each other’s family and personal needs.**