

TAKE LOVING KINDNESS

ROMANS 12:14-21

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: As a living sacrifice with Jesus in your heart, you are to relate to your adversaries the way Christ did. Taking loving kindness means that in all circumstances and in all the unfairness you may face, you let Christ's loving kindness, His grace, be seen in you as evidence that He lives in you. (**Romans 12:1-3, 9**)

TO BE A BLESSING to the insufferable, not by returning curses or an attitude of setting them straight, but with the encouragement of loving kindness so that all may be brought to harmony. (**Romans 12:14, I Peter 3:8-18, fn 3:9, fn 3:16, Galatians 5:22-26, fn 5:26, II Timothy 3:12, fn 3:12, Romans 5:3-5, fn 5:3, 4**) *How should you react when you are persecuted or insulted?*

TO THE LOWLY. Be willing to enter into humble situations and have fellowship with "...the most indigent, ignorant, and least influential..." Kenneth S. Wuest, Word Studies in the New Testament, Volume I (Romans), p. 217. (**Romans 12:15, 16, fn 12:16, James 2:1-9, fn 2:1-7, fn 2:5, Matthew 25:31-46, fn 25:34-40, fn 25:40, Proverbs 28:11, fn 28:11, Luke 14:11-14, fn 14:11, fn 14:7-14**) *How could you develop friendship with the less fortunate?*

TO THE OVERCOMER. You were evil, but God saved you by His loving kindness. In God's kingdom, good overcomes evil and loving kindness reaps repentance. Vengeance is not your responsibility, but God's; and His kindness through you is effective and has good results in leading one to repentance. (**Romans 12:17-21, fn 12:17-21, fn 12:19-21[1st], fn 12:20, Titus 3:3-7, fn 3:4-8, Proverbs 25:21, 22, fn 25:21, 22, Matthew 5:43-47, fn 5:43, 44, Hebrews 10:30-36, fn 10:32-36**) *How can the evil you face (and you do face it!) be overcome? Be specific.*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.