

# Weekly Message Study Guide

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Date \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker \_\_\_\_\_

## **TRUST IN GOD | 12:21 | Week 5 | November 15**

Romans 12:11-12, 21

*These study guides are designed for individual or group study but highly encouraged to be experienced in community with a small group or other friends on the journey with Jesus.*

**CONTEXT** | We have been searching Romans 12 for instruction on how to live in the way of Jesus in these uncertain times and perhaps how to weigh the priorities that assault us as we strive to continue life in a meaningful way.

- We begin with a question about our passion: what has happened to your hobby, sport, life giving activity—in the midst of these times?

**Romans 12:11 Zealous and Fervent** | We each probably have a different view of these words, depending on how they apply to us.

- In what activity do you think of yourself as zealous or fervent?
- How does that show up for you in emotions, in time spent, in exertion/work?
- Talk about the satisfaction it brings you.

**Serve the Lord** | Paul uses these words to describe our approach to serving the Lord.

- What is your interpretation of verse 11 in the context of the passage? What is “service” here?
- Think of a time when you felt fervent in service to the Lord. Talk about it with the group.
- How did that show up for you in emotions, in time spent, in exertion/work?

**Passion and Trust** | Passion can be oppositional, against or inclusive, or benevolent.

- In these days, how do you define your passion? What has gotten you excited?
- How do you sense your trust? What are you trusting?
- Talk about what causes you to struggle. Talk about when you felt success.

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**Read vs. 12 Hope, Patience, Constancy** | These words seem far from our current circumstances. Paul is encouraging the Church to act with trust in God.

- Consider each phrase in this verse. As a group try to make a list of where you have experienced the phrase over the past few weeks.
  - Rejoicing in HOPE
  - Patient in tribulation
  - Constant in Prayer
- Share what helps you to live into each of these encouragements from Paul despite what is going on around you.

**Read vs.21 Overcome Evil with Good** | Paul began (vs. 9) with genuine love. He concludes this section with a summary statement of all he has said in between.

- What is your initial response to Paul's encouragement to overcome evil with good?
- How does where we have been during this series help you live in a way that helps overcome evil with good?
  - As followers of Jesus we are called to ...
  - **Week 1:** Not Conform • **Week 2:** Value Everyone • **Week 3:** Care for the Common Good
  - **Week 4:** Demonstrate Christ like love • **Week 5:** Trust God

**PRACTICE OF THE WEEK** | Use the overview above of what God has lead us to realize through this series to fuel your prayers for yourself and small group to live in the goodness of the Kingdom way of Jesus, pushing back to overcome the empire way that is always pressing in.

Pray that God would work to change you, transform you, to be part of the Kingdom storyline in your sphere of influence.