

Romans 13:8-14 - Part 26
Day To Day Living
05/22/2022

Romans 13:8-14 (MSG) Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is love. But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

How to Navigate Everyday Life:

1st) Live in **BALANCE**.

Romans 13:8 (MSG) Don't run up debts,

Romans 6:17 (ESV) But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

- By grace we have been gifted with a new, righteous heart that is obedient to God
- Let me show you what your life should be like
- Don't assume more debt than you can handle
- "Stop continuing to owe"

Psalms 37:21 (NIV) The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;

- The Bible does not teach against borrowing

2nd) Lift **OTHERS** up.

Romans 13:10 (MSG) You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is love.

- He's saying be sure to value people of a different kind

Matt. 12:34-35b (NIV) You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.

- Paul is saying because your heart has been made right then you can do right
- Jesus has put a lecture in your heart
- Love one another
- He gives us the power to do so

3rd) Learn to **DISCERN**.

Romans 13:11 (MSG) Be up and awake to what God is doing!

- How do you normally wake up in the morning?

Proverbs 27:14 (NIV) If anyone loudly blesses their neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse.

- Sleep: "A state of inactivity with a loss of consciousness and a decrease in responsiveness to events taking place."
- He's talking about spiritual awareness
- Make the most of every opportunity

Ephesians 5:11-15 (NIV) "Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness but rather expose them. For it's shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible. For it is light that makes everything visible. That's why it's said, 'Wake up, o sleeper. Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.' Be very careful, then, how you live, not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity because the days are evil."

- Our world is rapidly changing
- We're in a cultural revolution

4th) **LEAD** a Productive Lifestyle.

Romans 13:13 (MSG) We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight.

- Maintain a pure lifestyle
- Responsibility to a Sovereign God is not a bad idea.
- The Christian faith is like a gigantic minefield
- Obedience to God gives us a guide to take us through that minefield.
- The proclamation of the Gospel of Christ is never good news unless it first becomes bad news

- You are a sinner who will stand before a righteous God; He will judge you on the basis of His Law...and you won't have a leg to stand on.
- It's only through getting the proper information that we can get the proper cure.
- Setting the standard to avoid the mines in the minefield for our own good

What does it mean to live a clean life?

3 Goals and 1 Application:

- It's a life of self-control. *“in frivolity and indulgence”*
- Don't live solely for your own pleasure
- It's a life of moral purity. *“in sleeping around and dissipation”*
- What is debauchery?
- Bragging about immorality
- Live a life of harmony. *“in bickering and grabbing everything in sight”*

Proverbs 13:10 (JUB) Pride shall certainly give birth to contention

- Look to Jesus

Hebrews 12:2 (CEV) We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our faith complete.