## HOW TO GET **ALONG WITH** IRRITABLE PEOPLE

# This passage will help you to get along with irritable people!

#### Romans 12:9-13

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

#### Romans 12:14-17

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.

#### A. To those within the church.

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1. Love without hypocrisy.

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1. Love without hypocrisy.

Hypocrite \* = a mask wearer, an actor.

\* ὑποκριτής

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2. Hate evil.

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- 2. Hate evil.
  - a. Hate \* = to hate emphatically, combat it wherever it exists.

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- 2. Hate evil.
  - b. You must hate evil itself, not just its consequences.

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#### 2. Hate evil.

### c. Repay evil with good!

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. - v14

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. - v17

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So he went and <u>hired himself</u> out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. - Luke 15:15

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A few men <u>became followers</u> of Paul and believed. - Acts 17:34

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Do you not know that he who <u>unites himself</u> with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." - I Corinthians 6:16

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- 3. Cling to what is good.
  - b. Glue yourself to good by hating evil & having genuine love!

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4. Be <u>devoted</u> to one another in brotherly love.

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- 4. Be <u>devoted</u> to one another in brotherly love.
  - a. Brotherly love \* = family affection.

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- 4. Be <u>devoted</u> to one another in brotherly love.
  - b. Love your church brothers like blood kin!

#### A. To those within the church.

Never be lacking in zeal, but <u>keep your spiritual</u> <u>fervor</u>, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. - v11-12

5. Keep your spiritual fervor \* = "keep your spirit at the boiling point".

<sup>\*</sup> τω πνεύματι ζέοντες

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### 5. Keep your spiritual fervor.

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. - Revelation 3:15-16

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#### A. To those within the church.

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. - v13

6. Practice hospitality.

#### A. To those within the church.

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. - v13

- 6. Practice hospitality.
  - a. Give to the homeless.

Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. - Matthew 5:42

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#### a. Give to the homeless.

John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same."

- John 3:11

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- 6. Practice hospitality.
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Command them to do good, to <u>be rich in good</u> <u>deeds</u>, and to <u>be generous</u> and <u>willing to share</u>. - I Timothy 6:18

#### A. To those within the church.

Share with God's people who are in need. <u>Practice hospitality</u>. - v13

- 6. Practice hospitality.
  - b. The primary Bible focus.

Community - witness

Household of faith - benevolence

- A. To those within the church.
- B. To those outside the church.

#### B. To those outside the church.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. - v14

1. Bless the <u>irritable</u>.

#### B. To those outside the church.

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- 1. Bless the irritable.
  - a. Bless \* = to speak well of or kindly to.

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#### 1. Bless the <u>irritable</u>.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. v15

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#### 1. Bless the <u>irritable</u>.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. v15

Jesus wept

John 11:35-36

#### B. To those outside the church.

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but <u>be willing to associate with people of low position</u>. - v16

2. Don't try to be a big shot!

- I. What to Do to Get Along with Irritable People v9-17
- II. What to Do When Irritable People Don't Want to Get Along with You

- v18-21

#### Romans 12:18-21

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

#### A. Don't seek revenge!

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Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. - v17

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#### A. Don't seek revenge!

#### Our godly response:

Matthew 5:38-39 - "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, <u>turn</u> to him the other also.

#### A. Don't seek revenge!

#### Our godly response:

On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. - v20-21

### B. Keep a good reputation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. - v17

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I Thessalonians 5:22 - Avoid every kind of evil.

"Abstain from all appearances of evil."
(King James Version)

#### C. Have a <u>peacemaking</u> spirit.

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. - v18

Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

#### C. Have a <u>peacemaking</u> spirit.

- If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. v18
- Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.
- Titus 1:6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient.

#### C. Have a <u>peacemaking</u> spirit.

James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

# Do you want to get along with irritable people?

Put these character traits into your life & see how the irritable people respond!