Hook - Getting to know one another

* *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
* When was a time you felt that you truly rejoiced with those who were rejoicing?
* When you’re feeling low, what small gestures from others really buoy your spirits?
* When was a time you felt really unsure of what might be helpful. How did you respond in that time?
* Describe a time, when you were facing pain or hardship, where someone drew close to you in a way that felt meaningful. What did they do? How did their actions impact you?

Book - Scripture

* *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand* ***what the text is saying****:*
* **Read Romans 12:15**
* Consider reading Romans 12:9-21.
  + How do the commands in verse 15 fit in with the context of the rest of the passage?
  + What pitfalls or dangers does the passage imply may work in opposition to love?
  + How is love a response to these dangers in the ways described in verses 9-21?

Look - Connections to our world today

* *This section focuses on implications about* ***what this text means*** *about what’s wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
* When you read Romans 12:15, what response of obedience do you believe the passage calls for?
* Last week, Tim discussed how love is with, love sees, and love listens. When you consider ways to “mourn with those who mourn”:
  + How can being with be a part of a meaningful response?
  + How can seeing be a part of a meaningful response?
  + How can listening be a part of a meaningful response?
* What makes responding in these ways challenging?
  + What in our world makes this sort of response challenging?
  + What in ourselves makes this sort of response challenging?
* When have you seen someone live out what it means to “mourn with those who mourn”?

Took - Personal Application

* *This application focuses on* ***how God is calling us to respond****. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
* What from this week’s message and scripture passage encourage you? What is the good news you are taking from Romans 12:15?
* Take some time in quiet reflection and prayer. Consider making paper and writing materials available. Prayerfully consider, who in your life might be mourning right now? In a season of pain, hardship, or worry?
  + Yourself?
  + In your family? Friends?
  + In your small group or church?
  + In your place of work?
  + In the broader community?
* Write or draw these names and situations. If you feel led to respond in any of these places, add this too. Keep your reflections in a place to come back to throughout the week.

Time of Prayer