



Sermon Discussion Guide

Move Towards People in Their Pain - James Junior & Stevie Cairns
Feb 9, 2025

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.*



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- 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.



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Time of Prayer