

February 6, 2020

## Devoted Love

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. The Greek term for devoted is *philostorgoi*. This is the only time this term is used in scripture and it is linked to love. It means giving affection in honor. When you honor someone, you are placing a high value on them and lifting them up above yourself. This is the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He walks along beside us and reminds us that we are dearly loved children of the King. Paul uses this picture to remind us that we ought to be “given” to encouragement in love. Heb. 10:24 reminds us to consider how we may spur (encourage) one another on toward love and good deeds.

We all like to be encouraged, and yet I wonder how often we lift others up. In a world focused on “me,” we need to begin to be focused on Him and the ones He puts in our lives. Paul says “be devoted.” In other words, put forth the effort to show the love of God through the encouraging words you can share with others.

I can tell you, when someone encourages me, it’s like a supernatural breath of God in my life and I am blessed. Let’s show our love to those around us by looking for opportunities to encourage and motivate others in the love of God.

Dear Father, thank You for encouraging me everyday with Your love. You tell me with the sunrise and in the singing of the birds. You remind me that I am Your special creation and that You love me everyday, all day, always. In Jesus Name, Amen.