

# Sermon-based Discussion Questions

“Overcoming Evil” from 5/24/2020  
Romans 12:17-21

SPOILER ALERT:     *You may not want to read these until  
AFTER you have heard the sermon.*

1. When you hear the word “revenge,” what story or memory comes to mind? Why do you think so many movies and stories use revenge as a key plot line?
2. Romans 12:17 says “Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.” But what if that’s not possible? What if that’s different from what’s right in God’s eyes?
3. Romans 12:18 urges us, “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” What is your “gut response” to this idea: “yeah right!” or “that sounds really hard!” or something else. Explain.
4. Why do you think the Bible urges Christ-followers to repay evil with peace and blessing? (See Romans 12:17-20 and 1 Peter 3:9) What might this do for our reputations? What might this do for the person who did the evil?
5. Read Romans 12:19. What comes to mind when you read the words, “leave room for God’s wrath?” Can you think of some scenarios where knowing this is particularly encouraging? Or particularly frustrating?
6. Romans 12:20 gives an interesting word picture of heaping burning coals on someone’s head. In light of verses 17-18, this is clearly not literal. But what do you think it might mean metaphorically?
7. How can we encourage one another to overcome evil with good this week?