

B. Do give **away** your angry emotions (v. 19b).

“21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

22 “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;

23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;”
I Peter 2:21-23

IV. CONTROL YOUR REACTIONS WITH **GOODNESS**

(vs. 20-21)

“43 You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?” Matthew 5:43-46

A. Do not be overcome by **evil** (v. 21a).

Evil compounds evil.

“9 “As for the head of those who surround me, Let the evil of their lips cover them;

10 Let burning coals fall upon them; Let them be cast into the fire, Into deep pits, that they rise not up again.”

Psalm 140:9-10

B. Do overcome evil with **good** (v. 20a, 21b).

Evil can only be overcome with good.

“21 If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

22 For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.”
Proverbs 25:21-22

MAKE 2018 A YEAR OF TRANSFORMING YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

TRANSFORMED: FIVE CHANGES TO YOUR BEST YEAR EVER

Transforming Your Relationships
Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Make 2018 your best year ever! If you always do what you’ve always done, you will always get what you’ve always gotten. It’s time to transform your life. In the Transformed five part teaching series Pastor Steve Reynolds will lead you through a study of Romans 12.

“...be transformed...”

Romans 12:2b

B. In this series, you will discover five changes to your BEST year ever.

Jan 14	Transforming Your Body
Jan 21	Transforming Your Mind
Jan 28	Transforming Your Service
TODAY	Transforming Your Relationships
Feb 11	Transforming Your Commitment

C. **TEXT:** Romans 12:9-21 (Pew Bible/Pg. 1178/New Test.)

What is one major change you would like to make to your relationships in 2018?

HOW TO TRANSFORM YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

What does God expect you to do with your relationships? He expects you to do your best to get along with everyone (Romans 12:18). However, He also knows that it is not always possible. Even God can't please everybody! In this passage the Bible gives you four people skills for transforming your relationships.

I. CONTROL YOUR TONGUE WITH GRACE (vs. 14-15)

"Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."

Colossians 4:6

Grace means undeserved favor.

A. Bless them, do not curse them (v. 14).

"A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger."

Proverbs 15:1

"Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases."

Proverbs 26:20

B. Do congratulate and console them (v. 15).

"Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;"

Proverbs 24:17

II. CONTROL YOUR EGO WITH HUMILITY (v. 16)

"I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us."

III John 9

A. Do not have a prideful mindset.

"By pride comes nothing but strife,..."

Proverbs 13:10a

"Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

Proverbs 26:12

B. Do have a humble mindset.

"5 ...Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

I Peter 5:5b

"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself."

Philippians 2:3

III. CONTROL YOUR ANGER WITH FORGIVENESS

(vs. 17-19)

"bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

Colossians 3:13

A. Do not give in to your angry emotions (vs. 17-19a).

"You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

Leviticus 19:18