

## Zeal | A Monologue on Romans 12:9-13

By Kathryn Higgins

A teen is sitting in their room on their laptop. They have just signed up for Youth Councils online. This monologue could be used as in intro video or to help familiarize the youth with the scripture. This could be recorded with the teen speaking out loud to themselves, or recorded as their own voice over that they then silently act to.

Youth Councils 2021, here I come. Click!

(Dramatic hand raising off the keyboard after they click *apply*. Is happy for a moment, then sighs.)

S'gonna be different this year. At least it's happening at all. What's the theme? (reads the website) Ok, Romans 12:9-13... (clicks around) "Love must be sincere," ... Sincere...dictionary dot com...

(Reads out loud...)

Free of deceit, hypocrisy, or falseness. Earnest. Yah, I knew what sincere meant. Duh.

(Clicks back to original site.)

"Hate what is evil; cling to what is good." Hate. Hate what is evil. (Makes a Dr. Evil voice while bringing pinky to face...) Dr Evil. (Chuckles to self) Hope they unpack that a bit.

(Reads out loud...)

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." Aah, the golden rule. (beat) Is that the golden rule?

(Types while reading out loud...)

What is the golden rule? Wikipedia. (clicks, then reads outloud...). "The Golden Rule is the principle of treating others as you want to be treated. It is a maxim that is found in most religions and cultures. ... The maxim may appear as a positive or negative injunction governing conduct, blah blah blah..."

(Types while reading out loud...)

What is a maxim?

(Clicks delete over and over)

I'm getting off track.

(Clicks back to original page, clears throat)

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor..." aah, that's where the whole *zeal* thing comes from. Zeal. Zeal.

(Enjoys letting the word bounce around their mouth. Reads while typing...)

Dictionary.com to the rescue again. Z-E-A-L.

(mumbles through the first part of the definition....)

Foidhf siodi sdijdoa;.....enthusiastic diligence. "Never be lacking in (beat) *enthusiastic diligence*, but keep your spiritual *fever* (squints, beat) *fev*or serving the Lord." Gees, this one is loaded with weird words. Why can't the Bible ever say anything straight up?

(Types while reading out loud...)

F-E-R-V-O-R...(clicks) "Intense and passionate feeling." (Makes eyes at the screen, or looks around to see if anyone saw them google that.) Wah wah wee wah. (Or insert another silly romantically-inclined saying.)

(Clears throat.)

"Keep your spiritual *intense passionate feeling*. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction..." Tell me about it. Patience is all I got these days. "Faithful in prayer." Oh we've had lots of time to catch up, me and Jesus. Excuse me. Jesus and I.

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Practice hospitality... so one day, you can be a hospital. (Cracks self up.) Yah, that's definitely not what that means.

H-O-S-P-I-T-A-L-I-T-Y "...the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers." Ain't no one been practicing hospitality around here for a loooong time.

(clicks around....)

Facebook (or Instagram)... #youthcouncils2021 (or insert appropriate divisional youth councils #)  
Can't wait to see you there. #Zeal #fervorfever.

(Dramatic click indicating they posted.)