

# Don't Take Revenge Romans 12

What is revenge?

1) **The insanity of revenge: a never-ending cycle**

2) **Subtle forms of revenge**

gossip, cold shoulder, treating someone as if they didn't exist, undermining their credibility, excluding them, always remembering what they did and reminding them, being cool, aloof, it's in a glance, it's in my silence, withdrawing warmth, generosity, time, affection, eye-contact

3) **Revenge is not the same as setting boundaries**

- some people are toxic and dangerous
- they're going to abuse and manipulate again and again
- appropriate safeguards and boundaries are needed
- especially in abusive relationships
- it's ok to get a restraining order or move out
- or to not start another business together, etc

How do we stop taking revenge?

\* **Leaving room for God's justice** v19, 1 Peter 2:23

\* **Praying for God's best for them** v14

**Matthew 5:43-44** You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...

**Takeaways:**

1. Is there any situation you're in where you need to break the cycle of revenge?
2. Is there any situation in which you have been excusing your own wrong because of what "they" have done?
3. Have you been justifying talking about the person in an unhealthy way to others?
4. What would it look like for you to hand over to God the person who has wronged you?
5. Is there anyone who has wronged you whom you need to pray for and ask God to bless? What would it look like for you to wish them well? Are you able to do this now?