

## Love My Enemies? Really?

Luke 6:27-36

### 3. The Kingdom ethic is Positive; it leads us to do the Extra Thing.

*Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full.*

Luke 6:31-34

### 4. Do good to those who mistreat you.

*But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.*

Luke 6:27-30

-Pray for GOD's Blessing on Him.

-Speak Well of him; do not Speak Badly of him.

-Promote his Cause; support the good he is doing.

-Serve him whenever you have Opportunity.

### C. Celebrate The Results of Living This Way.

#### 1. You will receive a Great Reward.

*But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great,*

Luke 6:35

#### 2. You will show yourself to be a Child of the King.

*...and you will be sons of the Most High...*

Luke 6:35

#### 3. You will be Like Your Father in Heaven.

*...because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

Luke 6:35-36

### Disciples of the King live a life of Radical Love.

Intro:

Remember Jesus' Central Message:

1. The Kingdom of GOD is here!

2. He calls you to be His Disciple.

### A. Listen to Some Cautions Regarding Jesus' Words.

1. Don't get hung up on the word "Enemy."

2. Don't apply this to every International Situation

*Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God... For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.* Romans 13:1,4

3. Be careful in applying them to Bullying Situations.

### B. Listen to Jesus and Obey.

1. Understand what "Agape" Love is:

- a commitment to always seek the Highest Good of the other person.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

- Agape love is not Motivated by the Merit of the one who is loved.

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* Romans 5:8

2. Do not Repay Evil for Evil.

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.* Romans 12:17-21

## **Faith@Home**

Commit yourself to spending time with GOD and His Word on at least five days this week. Read the Bible passage(s) listed.

Ask GOD for understanding. Reflect on the verses you read and write down your answers to the question(s). Pray that GOD will guide you to walk in His Word.

### **Day One**

Read Luke 6:27-36

1. What are your initial thoughts as you read this passage?
2. Compare most people's way of dealing with things to what Jesus lays out for us who live as His Kingdom people.
3. Is it really possible to live this way? If so, how?

### **Day Two**

Read Luke 6:27-36

1. As you continue to reflect on this passage, who comes to mind as a person who has mistreated you in some way?
2. How have you responded/reacted to this person thus far?
3. What are some specific things you could do to live out Jesus' words in regard to this person (i.e. do good to someone who has mistreated you)? Start now to do what you believe GOD is calling you to do.

### **Day Three**

Read Luke 6:27-36

1. This passage is worth spending a third day on. Reflect especially on verses 35-36. What is promised to you if you obey Jesus' words?
2. What is GOD like according to these verses?
3. Think of some specific ways you can be more like Him today and do at least one of them.

### **Day Four**

Read Romans 5:1-11

1. What is the message of this passage, especially verses 6-11?
2. How were we "GOD's enemies?"
3. How did GOD treat His enemies (us)? (verse 8)
4. What does this mean to you?

### **Day Five**

Read Romans 12:14-21

1. What does this passage add to your reflections for the week?
2. What's the difference between you taking revenge and leaving the matter to GOD?
3. What do you think verse 20 means?
4. How will you live out verse 21 today?