

Luke 6:27-36

7/9/17

**“Making Disciples Who Make Disciples, Part 2:
Love Your Enemies”**
Sermon Notes

Next Week: Luke 6:37-45 - **“Making Disciples Who Make Disciples, Part 3:
Judge Not And You Will Not Be Judged”**

Community Group Study Guide

For the Week of July 9th – 15th

Please read Luke 6:27-36.

1. In verse 27 Jesus exhorts those listening to him to love their enemies.
 - a. Is he talking about an emotion? If not, what does he mean by love?
 - b. Is it possible to love someone who is actively hostile to you? Why or why not?
 - c. Is it possible to love someone without liking them? Why or why not?
 - d. Do you love radical Islamic extremists? Why or why not?
 - e. Have you ever been physically, mentally or emotionally abused? Do you pray for the one who did that to you? Please explain.
 - f. Is this a command or a suggestion? Please explain.

2. In verse 29, Jesus exhorts his followers to radically submissive behavior to others who assault you and steal from you.
 - a. If someone attacks you, do you submit or retaliate? Please explain.
 - b. Is resistance to injury unjustified? Please explain.
 - c. If someone steals from you, do you try to get back what they took or do you offer them more? Please explain.
 - d. Compare Matthew 5:40 with the second half of verse 29. Do you think that Luke's emphasis is stronger or less strong? Please explain.

3. Compare Jesus' demand for generosity to everyone in verse 30 with Paul's instructions in 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13.
 - a. Do you think this is an overstatement, or was Jesus' command supposed to be taken literally? Please explain.
 - b. Does indiscriminate giving have negative consequences? If so, what would be a reasonable motive for refusal to give?
 - c. When Jesus talks about not demanding your goods back, is he talking about theft, borrowing, or both? Please explain.

4. In verse 31, Jesus articulates the golden rule.
 - a. How would you wish to be treated by your enemies?
 - b. How would you wish to be treated by someone you had abused?
 - c. How would you wish to be treated by someone you had attacked or stolen from?
 - d. How would you wish to be treated by someone whom you had taken something from?

5. In verses 32-34, Jesus talks about lack of credit for falling short of the commands in verses 27-30.

- a. What is the difference between loving an enemy and loving a friend?
- b. What is the difference between doing good to those who do good to you and doing good to those who wrong you?
- c. What is the difference between lending and giving?
- d. What point, do you think, is Jesus stressing here in contrasting the commands to his followers to what sinners do?

6. In verse 35, Jesus says that those who follow his commands will be sons of the Most High.

- a. What is the purpose of the radical love that Jesus proposes?
- b. Compare the behavior that Jesus requires with God's treatment of his fallen world (John 3:16-17). Is being a son of the Most High the reward for following his commands, or is Jesus stressing that this is what it means to share His likeness?
- c. What is the reward for following the commands of Jesus? Is this a payment for obedience?
- d. How does acting in this radical way bring glory to God?