

GOSPEL | COMMUNITY | MISSION

March 13, 2022 Luke 6:27-36 "The Sermon on the Plain: Love Your Enemies"

QUESTIONS

(potential discussion/conversation questions to use in your GGs this week)

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1. Luke 6 speaks about how we, as Christians, are called to love our enemies. Here, Jesus is highlighting how we respond to those who oppose us for following Christ. Why is it important to have this understanding when it comes to loving our enemies?

2. Tony mentioned three categories of opposition that Christians face - Local, Global, and Public. How do the principles of Luke 6 help us respond to (and pray about) opposition in these three categories?

3. When Jesus speaks of love in this passage, he is not talking about a feeling or mere sentimentality. Why is it important to remember that love for our enemies is not ultimately grounded in feelings or emotions?

o How does this inform our words, deeds, and prayers toward those who oppose us (v. 27-28)?

4. Verse 29 demonstrates how we are to continue blessing and ministering to others, even when we experience wrongdoing. How do we cultivate a heart of mercy that does not respond with retaliation when wronged?

5. What does it mean for us to give without expectation of return? How can we grow in our generosity toward others, specifically toward those who cannot return the favor?

6. In verse 31, Jesus commands us to do unto others that which we wish others would do to us. How does Jesus' teaching go beyond worldly reciprocity - not doing to others what we do not want done to us?

o What are some practical ways you can actively do good this week to someone outside your immediate circle?

7. The church is to be a place of extraordinary and revolutionary love. We do not only love those who are like us, but those who are different and even those who are opposed to us because of Christ. What does this kind of love look like?

o What are some ways you can grow in your love for those who are unlike you or those who oppose you because of Christ?

8. The end of this passage shows how we demonstrate God's very character in the way we treat those who mistreat us. What are some particular elements of God's character that are highlighted in these verses?

o How does the fact that we are former enemies of God who have received mercy impact the way we show mercy to others?